

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII
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Testimony of the Environmental Advisory Council on HB 185
Before the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference
February 14, 2023 at 9:10 am

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

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Puananionaona Thoene

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Ron Terry
Michael Tulang
N. Mahina Tuteur

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

I am the Chair of the State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) and submit this testimony in strong **SUPPORT** of House Bill 185 on behalf of the EAC.

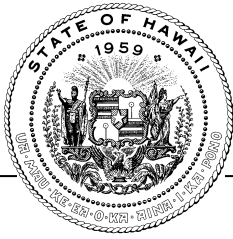
In 2021, the legislature passed HB 1318, which was enacted as Act 152, which, among other things, administratively transferred the EAC to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. In doing so, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Sections 341-3 through 341-5 were repealed. HRS Section 341-6 was amended to update the EAC functions, but still retained a reference to HRS Section 341-4(b)(3), which had been repealed.

The EAC requests that this Committee vote in favor of this measure which will amend HRS Section 341-6 to delete the former reference to HRS Section 341-4(b)(3). The remainder of HRS Section 341-6 will substantively be the same. The EAC thanks Representative Lowen for introducing this.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Puananionaona Thoene
Chair
Environmental Advisory Council

Robin Kaye
Chair
EAC Legislative Committee



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 9:10 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 185
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** HB 185. The Environmental Advisory Council found an inadvertent error in Act 152, Session Laws of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021 (Act 152). Act 152 administratively transferred the EAC from the Department of Health to the OPSD. In doing so, sections 341-3 through 341-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), were repealed. However, section 341-6, HRS, which sets out the functions of the environmental council, still references a section that was repealed by Act 152. The bill corrects this error.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.