

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of **Nani Medeiros**  
Chief Housing Officer, Office of the Governor

Before the  
**House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**  
Tuesday, February 14, 2023  
9:10 a.m., Via Video Conference  
Conference Room 325

In consideration of  
**House Bill No. 837**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE PLAN**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill 837.

We are concerned about the impact on the cost of housing that HB 837 could have. We request that language be included in the measure to require a cost-benefit analysis before any conditions are placed on projects that involve any housing component including but not limited to: state and city or county sponsored affordable housing projects, public housing projects, transit-oriented development housing projects, Department of Hawaiian Homelands housing projects or lot developments, and housing within the stadium redevelopment district.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Nani Medeiros



**STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION  
COMMISSION  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809**

**Co-Chairs:**  
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Director, OPSD

**Commissioners:**  
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Chair, Senate WTL  
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Director, Hawaii DP  
Director, Kauai DP  
The Adjutant General  
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of  
Leah Laramée  
Coordinator, Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the House Committee on  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 837  
RELATING TO THE STATE PLAN**

House Bill 837 establishes green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects in the Hawaii State Planning Act to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors. Adds definition of "green infrastructure". Requires the office of planning and sustainable development (OPSD), in partnership with the greenhouse gas sequestration task force, to submit a report to the legislature making recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines. **The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this bill.**

The Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2022 report, nature-based or "green" infrastructure and ecosystem services provide significant benefits when installed in urban and infrastructure systems. While several nature-based solutions have the ability to innately adapt to rising sea levels, commonly used man-made materials or "gray" strategies to protect coastal infrastructure that rely on hardening shorelines may not be adaptable or must be specifically designed to adapt to rising sea levels, which can be costly. Gray solutions can also have unintended consequences, such as increased erosion or deposition, along other parts of the coastline. Nature-based solutions that rely on existing or enhanced landscapes help improve roadway resiliency by reducing impacts to coastal roads from hazards such as rising sea level, storm surge, and "nuisance" flooding (such as high tide or windblown flooding). Often these "green" strategies are both more effective and less costly than traditional engineering or gray solutions on their own.

Nature-based solutions also provide a natural aesthetic and other benefits. In addition, research suggests that trees may improve driving safety. One study found a 46% decrease in crash rates

across urban arterial and highway sites after landscape improvements were installed.<sup>i</sup> Another study found that placing trees and planters in urban arterial roadsides reduced mid-block crashes by 5% to 20%.<sup>ii</sup> Increasing tree canopy can reduce heat island effect, provide shade to encourage walking and biking, and provide storm water mitigation and sequester carbon. Recent instances such as the HDOT lighting project along sections of the Moanalua Fwy, which removed *Nerium Oleander* plantings on sections of the Moanalua Fwy in Halawa indicate that this has not been a priority. Restoration of native coastal plants along shorelines makes those shorelines less susceptible to erosion from high storm waves. The native plant root systems hold the sand and soil in place, and plants such as naupaka, hala, pōhuehue, and ‘ānapanapa are able to withstand vigorous wave action without breaking and separating from their roots. Intensive native coastal plant restoration makai of coastal roads may extend road longevity. Creating a strategy to increase the number of nature-based solutions and green infrastructure including trees and native plant restoration would support the State’s ability to both mitigate and adapt to climate change.

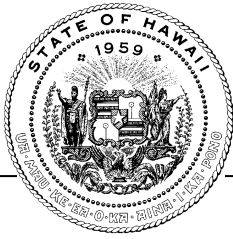
The Commission supports this measure and respectfully requests that funding and staff be added to assist in the development of this strategy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

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<sup>i</sup> Lee, J., and F. Mannering. 1999 (December). *Analysis of Roadside Accident Frequency and Severity and Roadside Safety Management*. Washington State Department of Transportation, Olympia, WA, 137 pp.

<sup>ii</sup> Naderi, J.R. 2003. Landscape Design in the Clear Zone: Effect of Landscape Variables on Pedestrian Health and Driver Safety. *Transportation Research Record* 1851:119-130.



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

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SCOTT J. GLENN**  
DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**SCOTT GLENN, Director**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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

in consideration of  
**HB 837**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE PLAN**

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

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** and offers comments on HB 837 which amends the Hawaii State Planning Act, Ch. 226-104, HRS, to establish green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for state facilities, infrastructure, and transit systems to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

OPSD strongly supports this measure which adds to the duties assigned to OPSD in administering the Hawaii State Planning Act, in partnership with the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force (Ch. 225P-4, HRS), a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature making recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives.

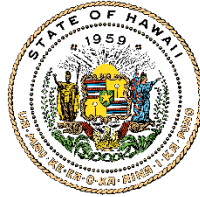
OPSD offers the following comment. The Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force is an unfunded mandate with no staff or funds for the required research and reports to the Legislature. All of OPSD employees are assigned to specific programs or hired under federal grants. If the Committee is inclined to pass this measure, OPSD requests that two new sections be added to HB 87: first, establishing one exempt policy analyst position; and second, an appropriation for \$150,000 for salary and program funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG  
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Testimony of  
DAWN N. S. CHANG  
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 837  
RELATING TO THE STATE PLAN

House Bill 837 proposes to establish green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects in the Hawai'i State Planning Act to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors, add a definition of "green infrastructure", and requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD), in partnership with the greenhouse gas sequestration task force, to submit a report to the legislature making recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

This measure is aligned with the mission of the Department's Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program. The Kaulunani Program builds capacity in our communities to plan for, establish, manage, and protect green infrastructure including street-trees, urban forests, green spaces, bioswales and related natural areas where we live, work, and play. Recent analyses using data from the Hawai'i Tree Canopy Viewer (EarthDefine LLC et al 2021) show that 84% of Hawai'i residents statewide (and 93% of the population of urban Honolulu) have less than 30% canopy coverage, which is the minimum recommended in order to realize the health and well-being benefits that urban tree canopy provides (Konijnendijk, C.C., 2022). For example, green infrastructure, trees specifically, can reduce surface temperatures as much as 45 degrees (F) and reduce ambient air temperatures by as much as 25 degrees (F) with shade from trees. More green infrastructure, including trees, is needed to sustain our communities statewide. The Department encourages collaboration with OPSD on this topic.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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February 11, 2023

To: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair.  
The Honorable Elle Cochran, Vice Chair, and Members of the  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
House of Representatives, Hawaii State Legislature

Re: **HB 837 – Relating to Green Infrastructure**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 9:10 am, Room 325 & videoconference

Position: **Strong support**

Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Committee Members:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i has an enrolled membership of 7,500 voting residents here in Hawai'i. We strongly support HB 837, which would establish green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects in the Hawai'i State Planning Act, HRS Chapter 226, to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors. The bill would add a definition of "green infrastructure." The bill would require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in partnership with the greenhouse gas sequestration task force, to submit a report to the Legislature making recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines.

It is inspiring indeed to read the introduction of this bill, which states, in part: "Hawaii is world-renowned for its lush vegetation and citizens and tourists actively seek out green spaces. Increasing the number of parks and green spaces in Honolulu's urban core will increase the quality of life of residents and visitors."

And we are very pleased that the bill transforms these broad goals into very specific and well-focused plans to make those goals actually happen. The bill requires projects to incorporate green infrastructure to achieve climate and sustainability design objectives.

Section 2 of the bill would add a new section to HRS Chapter 226:

**"§226- Objectives and policies for facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects; green infrastructure.** (a) Planning for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects with regard to green infrastructure shall be directed toward the achievement of the following sustainability design objectives:

- (1) Minimizing stormwater runoff and replenishing the water table;
- (2) Reducing the urban heat-island effect;
- (3) Removing pollutants from the air; and



## Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Testimony for the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
HB 837 – relating to the State Plan and Green Infrastructure  
Hearing: Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 9:10 am, Room 325  
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(4) Removing, sequestering, and storing greenhouse gas emissions.

(b) Planning for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects shall incorporate the achievement of the following quality-of-life experience design objectives:

(1) Creating a visual and sound barrier to enhance the quality of life in the surrounding community; and

(2) Incorporating live foliage, trees, green infrastructure, and open green space, with a priority on the use of non-invasive Polynesian introduced and Hawaiian plants.”

Section 3 of the bill would amend HRS §226-2, by adding two definitions:

“Green infrastructure” means the range of measures that use plant or soil systems, including trees, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspire water and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters.

“Hawaiian plants” shall have the same meaning as in section 103D-408.”

Section 4 of the bill would amend HRS §226-12 to add four new goals to State policy:

(6) Promote the increase of outdoor public green spaces.

(7) Connect outdoor public green spaces with existing trails.

(8) Promote the increase of the urban tree canopy.

(9) Prioritize the use of Hawaiian plants where feasible to contribute to Hawaii's historic and cultural heritage, sense of place, biodiversity, and resilience.

Section 5 of the bill would add priority guidelines relating to green infrastructure to HRS §226-104, which would now include:

(c) Priority guidelines to promote the use of green infrastructure in state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects:

(1) Design all new state facilities, infrastructure, and transit upgrades to include best practices for tree planting and other green infrastructure.

(2) Make provisions for maintaining trees in accordance with standards set by the Accredited Standards Committee of the Tree Care Industry Association.

(3) Periodically revisit and modernize the design and planting around the area where trees are planted in urban areas.





Environmental Caucus of  
The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Testimony for the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
HB 837 – relating to the State Plan and Green Infrastructure  
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- (4) Select tree species matched to site conditions to maximize tree health.
- (5) Select tree and vegetation species for larger size at maturity where possible to maximize environmental benefits.
- (6) Select varied non-invasive Polynesian introduced and native tree and vegetation species for biodiversity to increase resilience.
- (7) Promote traffic safety with placement of foliage and trees consistent with Federal Highway Administration guidance, outside of "clear zones".

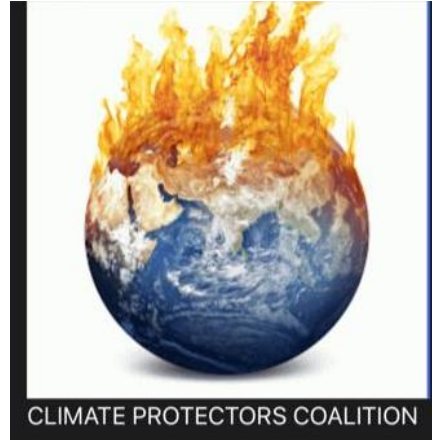
This is the proper way urban planning should move forward. For these reasons, we strongly support this bill, just as we support a very similar bill, HB 1278.

If this bill is enacted into law in its present form, or something close to it, and if it is implemented conscientiously and competently, it has the potential of transforming much of Hawaii's urban and suburban landscape in a truly beneficial way. We need this transformation. Full stop. Everyone will benefit, even the developers.

On behalf of the Environmental Caucus, we urge you to PASS HB 837. We thank you very much in advance for your favorable consideration of this bill.

*Alan B. Burdick* and *Melodie Adyja*, co-chairs  
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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[legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com) 808-258-8889



To: The Honorable Chair Nicole Lowen , the Honorable Vice Chair Elle Cochran,  
and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted  
Bohlen)

Re: **Hearing HB837 RELATING TO THE STATE PLAN**

Hearing: Tuesday February 14, 2023, 9:10 a.m., room 325

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

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean. HIROC is interested in preventing polluted runoff that harms the reefs and oceans.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i seek to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate. We support the use of trees and other design measures that reduce heat save energy and reduce the climate impact.

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**Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY  
SUPPORT HB837.**

Sustainable design concepts for public infrastructure use green vegetation and trees to decrease urban temperatures, reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, and capture water to replenish the water table. The so-called “green infrastructure” is a range of measures that use plant or soil systems, including trees, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to conserve water and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters.

The effects of climate change have made implementing sustainable design concepts more critical, as each passing year has seen increased temperatures and other impacts from climate change.

Studies have found that individuals who live in areas with more trees and green space are less likely to have acute respiratory symptoms and less likely to die of heart disease or respiratory disease. Hawaii is world-renowned for its vegetation. Citizens and tourists alike actively seek out green spaces. Increasing the number of parks and green spaces in Honolulu's urban core will enhance the quality of life of residents and visitors alike.

This bill would establish objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for State facility systems under the Hawaii State Planning Act to achieve the use of green infrastructure, vegetation, and trees in State facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects. It would require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in partnership with the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force, to make recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines established by this Act.

This bill would make our infrastructure more sustainable and save water and energy. Please pass this bill! Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



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Helping to keep Hawai'i  
clean, green, beautiful,  
livable and sustainable  
since 1912

February 13, 2023

RE: FULL SUPPORT FOR HB 837 Relating to the State Plan

Dear Representatives,

The Outdoor Circle has advocated for beautiful and scenic roads and landscapes for over 110 years, and has backed up that advocacy with projects throughout the state that have resulted in many beautiful and treed roadways, parks, schools, military bases and much more.

We strongly support the additions to the State Plan as presented in HB 837 to further our collective goals for all of the benefits listed in the bill preamble and rationale.

We would offer two friendly amendments to this bill.

First, under 226 – 104 underscored sentence 13) c (6) to change **from** the following as written:

(6) Select varied non-invasive Polynesian introduced and native tree and vegetation species for biodiversity to increase resilience.

**To a change to** parallel the underscored sentence earlier in this bill in 226- 12 HRS subsection (b) (9):

(9) Prioritize the use of Hawaiian plants where feasible to contribute to Hawaii's historic and cultural heritage, sense of place, biodiversity, and resilience."

This gives planners, arborists and others involved a better latitude on selecting the best tree species for each place, that may include additional trees that may not be native or canoe plants, but may be a better choice for certain areas and settings. For example, to provide for large canopy shade trees, especially in lowland, urbanized areas, there may be better choices than for otherwise-prioritized trees to thrive in, and would provide greater overall benefits desired.

Second, in the same section, (13) c (2) we would recommend a slight change:

(2) Make provisions for maintaining trees in accordance with standards set by the Accredited Standards Committee of the Tree Care Industry Association.

While the Accredited Standards Committee of the Tree Care Industry Association does set a national standard for best tree care practices, there are some instances where our unique environment may not be in all circumstances be comprehensively covered by those standards completely, so we would suggest a simple change of the last few words of this to read:

“by following Accredited Standards Committee of the Tree Care Industry Association, the ANSI A300, or similar best practice standards appropriate for Hawaii for tree care.”

to allow for local expert arborist flexibility in incorporating best tree care practices.

We would also suggest that this type of green infrastructure legislation be further required of all state agencies, departments, jurisdictions and contractors for such.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Welch', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Winston Welch  
Executive Director

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 7:48:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill.

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/4/2023 10:14:08 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB837

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 2:14:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Latkiewicz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The climate crisis is upon us – a waring climate, epic natural disaster, e., fires, floods, heat waves, extinctions. At this point, any and all action to curb greenhouse emissions in particular and gases . It is in that spirit that offer my testimony.

In keeping with the above, I am supporting HB837 incorporating green vegetation and trees into public infrastructure:

-saves money and improves water quality by recapturing water rather than letting it run off;

-improves air quality and reduces acute respiratory symptoms and deaths from heart and respiratory problems;

-improves quality of life and mental health; and

-reduces atmospheric greenhouse gases.

Therefore, the Hawaii Planning Act should include guidelines for State facilities to incorporate green infrastructure, vegetation and trees in State facilities, infrastructure and transit projects.



**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 6:32:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in strong support of HB837. Green infrastructure is the future -- if we want a future, that is. Whether we're talking about the economy, public health, the climate crisis, environmental justice, community resilience, or anything else, green infrastructure supports sustainability, flexibility, and preparedness.

Mahalo,  
Dylan Ramos  
96816

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 2:41:15 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robin Miyajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I think increasing the amount of parks and green spaces in Hawaii would improve the quality of life of both residents and visitors. I think focusing on green infrastructure could lead to better outcomes for Hawaii's development in the future, so I support this bill.

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:51:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Beth Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A recent article detailed the significant decrease in vegetation across the Hawaiian Islands between 1982 and 2018 resulting in increased browning. Native vegetation across all islands has suffered significant decline. "The Hawaiian Islands have experienced high levels of habitat loss and degradation, and have experienced some of the highest extinction rates on the planet. Consequently, they contain some of the most endangered ecosystems in the world as well as 38% of all federally listed endangered and threatened plant species in the United States." These declines are partially attributed to increased drought in the islands and warming trends.

It is vital to address vegetation loss, including native species losses, and take the actions outlined in Bill 837 to substantially increase greening of our infrastructure. We absolutely need to take the steps outlined in Bill 837 to mitigate browning and warming from climate change and work toward greening and cooling our communities.

I've noticed that areas of my community that were once full of magnificent large trees are now barren. We have suffered loss of scores of large ironwood trees at Kailua Beach Park because of flooding and erosion, and loss of other trees in the community from disease. Areas that used to be green are becoming tree deserts. Other areas of Kailua town have never had many trees and there is little relief from higher temperatures in the warmer months in these areas and they are unattractive and unappealing. In some cases where substantially large beautiful trees have been lost in Kailua (coral trees that stretched for miles in the median strip of Mokapu Blvd.in Kailua and magnificently tall, stately ironwood trees on Kailua Road), the city replaced these trees with small, meager trees that barely provide any shade, or mangy palms that are poor carbon sinks. Aesthetically and functionally, there has been loss.

We need more trees to decrease carbon in the atmosphere causing global warming, to provide cooling, to improve mental health as studies have shown streets with more trees have lower crime rates and happier, healthier, greater quality of life. We also need trees to help replenish our water tables, decrease run-off pollution, and create habitats for native species as well as indigenous birds.

The benefits far outweigh the risks of not passing this legislation. We need to address warming, and pollution and browning of our communities and pass SB 837.

**HB-837**

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:23:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2023 9:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

Mahalo Representatives Lowen, Gates, Perruso and others for introducing and/or supporting this important bill.

I am in strong support of all the objectives in the bill description

“Establishes green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for state facility systems, infrastructure, and transit projects in the Hawai‘i State Planning Act to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors. Adds definition of "green infrastructure". Requires the office of planning and sustainable development, in partnership with the greenhouse gas sequestration task force, to submit a report to the legislature making recommendations for implementing the green infrastructure objectives, policies, and priority guidelines.”

It’s important to me to support all efforts to benefit our climate and I am a strong supporter of HB837.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify,

Virginia Tincher, Aina Haina, Oahu