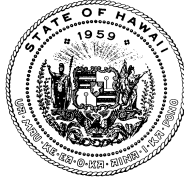


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'



KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'ŌIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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Testimony COMMENTING on HCR0018
REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY–CERTIFIED LABORATORY IN HAWAII TO TEST DRINKING
WATER SAMPLES FOR TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS.

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing Date: 3/20/2025, Time: 10:00 AM and Room number 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined. The Department of Health (“Department”) requests that
- 2 this measure be considered as a vehicle to provide this needed funding so long as it does not
- 3 supplant the priorities and requests outlined in the Governors executive budget request.
- 4 **Department Position:** The Department offers comments.
- 5 **Department Testimony:** The State Laboratories Division (SLD) provides the following testimony
- 6 on behalf of the Department.
- 7 SLD includes an Environmental Health Analytical Services Branch (EHASB) and a Safe Drinking
- 8 Water Branch (SDWB). EHASB/SDWB is certified by the United States Environmental Protection
- 9 Agency (U.S. EPA) for drinking water testing, and uses EPA-approved methods. EPA periodically
- 10 inspects our laboratory and requires us to participate successfully in a proficiency testing
- 11 program. Historically the SDWB has tested drinking water for regulated contaminants such as
- 12 pesticides and heavy metal. SDWB has acquired new equipment and is moving forward to test
- 13 for emerging contaminants including PFAS compounds and TPH (shown to be important by the
- 14 Red Hill event). EHASB is under new leadership and is forward-looking in terms of methodology,
- 15 productivity, and efficiency.

1 **Offered Amendments:** None.

2 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

Shawn K. Nakama
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666
Revisor 808-587-0670
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 446
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Written Comments

HCR18/HR18

REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-CERTIFIED LABORATORY IN HAWAII TO TEST DRINKING WATER SAMPLES FOR TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Thursday, March 20, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Chair Nicole E. Lowen and Members of the Committee:

Good morning, Chair Lowen and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau). Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written **comments** on H.C.R. No. 18 and H.R. No. 18, Requesting a Study on the Feasibility of Establishing an Environmental Protection Agency-Certified Laboratory in Hawaii to Test Drinking Water Samples For Toxic Chemicals and Other Contaminants.

The purpose of this measure is to request the Legislative Reference Bureau to study the feasibility of:

- (1) Establishing in Hawaii an Environmental Protection Agency-certified laboratory capable of testing drinking water for toxic chemicals, such as total petroleum hydrocarbons, and other contaminants, such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances; and

- (2) Upgrading the Department of Health laboratory in Pearl City to meet Environmental Protection Agency certification requirements for testing for toxic chemicals and other contaminants.

The measure specifically requests that the study consider:

- (1) The initial costs to establish or upgrade a laboratory;
- (2) The annual costs required to operate the laboratory;
- (3) Effective organizational structures; and
- (4) Entities that may be appropriate to host the laboratory.

The measure requests the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Health, Board of Water Supply of Honolulu, and other relevant public and private entities to cooperate with the Legislative Reference Bureau and furnish any information and assistance as the Legislative Reference Bureau reasonably deems necessary to accomplish its purposes.

The measure further requests that the Legislative Reference Bureau submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026.

The Bureau takes no position on this measure, but we have serious concerns about our ability to conduct this study and submit the following comments for your consideration.

As a general matter, the Bureau notes that it lacks the specific subject matter expertise necessary to conduct the requested study. We do not presently have any staff with specific expertise in or particular knowledge of, or experience in any matters relating to, water quality testing or the establishment and operation of Environmental Protection Agency-certified laboratories. Accordingly, the Bureau is concerned that it would not be well-suited to estimate the start-up costs, annual operational costs, or effective organizational structures and requirements associated with the establishment or upgrade of an Environmental Protection Agency-certified laboratory, as requested by this resolution.

The Bureau respectfully suggests that this measure be amended to establish a working group comprising the relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Health, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu, to study the issues presented by this measure. The Bureau believes that those parties, unlike the Bureau, possess the relevant subject matter expertise and experience required to authoritatively evaluate and respond to the issues presented by this measure.

If the Committee still believes the Bureau's participation in this matter is necessary, the Bureau respectfully requests that the measure be further amended to limit the scope of the Bureau's involvement to the drafting of any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations of the working group. If the Committee chooses to amend the measure in this manner, the Bureau also requests that the working group be instructed to finalize and submit to the Bureau, not later than October 30, 2025, any request for proposed legislation and necessary supporting documents, information, and materials so that work on the proposed legislation would not adversely impact our ability to provide our core services to the Legislature in preparation for the Regular Session of 2026.

If these requested amendments are made, then the Bureau believes that the services requested under the amended measure would be manageable, provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many other studies or additional responsibilities, such as conducting studies, writing or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or any combination of these for the Legislature or for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for your consideration.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

March 20, 2025

10:00 AM

Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of HCR18/HR18: REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-CERTIFIED LABORATORY IN HAWAII TO TEST DRINKING WATER SAMPLES FOR TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HCR18/HR18, which takes a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified laboratory with the ability to test our drinking water sources for toxic contaminants, such as petroleum hydrocarbons and PFAS.

Known groundwater contamination from jet fuel, PFAS, and other toxic substances released at the Red Hill Facility and from military and other sources have already created a permanent and growing need for timely and reliable water testing in our islands. This need will likely grow over time, as new sources of potential groundwater contamination continue to be uncovered. Unfortunately, the lack of a local EPA-certified lab capable of detecting established and emerging contaminants of concern means that we must rely on sometimes backlogged continental laboratories for our water testing needs; this has already resulted in delays and damaged water samples that have left our communities in limbo.

This measure would accordingly take a first step in exploring the establishment of a local EPA water testing lab that can meet our water testing needs in a much more reliable and timely manner. Notably, such a lab could also serve other communities across the Pacific dealing with drinking water contamination from military facilities and other sources, who, like us, must rely on labs located thousands of miles away, to know whether their water remains safe to drink.

Accordingly, in order to prevent the contamination of our drinking water systems, and to protect our communities and future generations from toxic exposure through their water supply, the Sierra Club urges the Committee to **PASS** HCR18/HR18. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

March 18, 2025

To: Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Amy A. Perruso, and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Date: Thursday, March 20, 2025, **Time:** 10:00 a.m.

Place: Via Videoconference and Conference Room 325

Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of HR18/HCR18 - EPA-Certified Laboratory in Hawaii

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports HR18/HCR18, which requests a study on the feasibility of establishing an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-certified laboratory in Hawaii to test drinking water samples for toxic chemicals and other contaminants.

Key Points in Support:

1. Protecting Public Health:

- An EPA-certified laboratory in Hawaii would enable more timely and accurate testing of drinking water for harmful contaminants, ensuring that residents have access to safe, clean water.

2. Addressing Environmental Concerns:

- Hawaii's unique environment and limited water resources make it imperative to have local infrastructure capable of detecting contaminants, particularly those tied to military activities, industrial runoff, and other sources.

3. Examples of Immediate Need:

- **Red Hill TPH Contamination (Oahu, Hawaii):** In 2021, a fuel leak from the U.S. Navy's Red Hill facility contaminated drinking water with total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), affecting thousands of residents and emphasizing the importance of immediate testing and response.
- **Kunia PFAS Contamination (Oahu, Hawaii):** Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), known as "forever chemicals," were detected in water supplies, posing serious health risks. Testing and mitigation were crucial to protect affected communities.

4. Improving Emergency Preparedness:

- Establishing a local laboratory would enhance Hawaii's ability to respond quickly to water quality concerns, reducing the risks associated with delays in sample transport to mainland laboratories.

5. Strengthening Self-Reliance:

- Hawaii's geographic isolation underscores the importance of self-sufficiency. By developing local testing capabilities, the state can reduce dependence on external resources and improve community resilience.

This resolution represents a proactive and essential step toward safeguarding Hawaii's drinking water and the health of its residents. We commend the Legislature for addressing this important issue and urge the committee to pass HR18/HCR18.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:12:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John & Rita Shockley	Free Access Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

The Free Access Coaliton supports HR17 and it's companion resolution that would start the ball rolling on an EPA certified water testing lab for Hawaii. We need all the tools to protect Hawaii's wai.

Mahalo for your time.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:17:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Chinen	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Dear chair, vice chair, and members of the committee,

Thank you so much for your labor of ALOHA to build a better and safer community. I am in strong support of this measure and would ask you to consider supporting this measure to ensure safe drinking water. Thank you for your consideration.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 9:24:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:37:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taryn Do	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

With the ongoing Red Hill disaster, it is crucial to protect our community by testing drinking water samples for toxic chemicals and other contaminants. It is better to provide this data to the community for trust and safety versus the aftermath of health issues that may be caused and found down the road.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 12:13:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Kuwaye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There needs to be continuous testing in Red Hill and surrounding communities and districts of potable drinking water, particularly after the leakage fiasco in Red Hill. Testing should include rest of state.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 12:52:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlene Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill, as we need to assure we have clean water to drink and in preparing foods.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 3:26:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joy Shimizu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in SUPPORT of this resolution. All it is asking is to look into the feasibility of having a water testing lab here. Water is the essence of life we tend to take for granted. It's vital to our health n welfare and as such should be given high priority.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 5:05:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:09:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take an initial step towards a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

We’ve seen the Red Hill water crisis, whereby our islands rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific is vital to ensuring we may act in a timely and reliable manner.

Please **PASS HCR18/HR18** as an initial step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:10:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D., and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As someone who has worked extensively in conservation and environmental protection, I recognize the critical need for timely, accurate water quality data. The Red Hill water crisis has demonstrated the severe limitations of relying on continental U.S. facilities for water testing. Delays, damaged samples, and prolonged uncertainty have left communities without the information they need to protect their families. With ongoing contamination concerns, including a spreading plume of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer and the persistent presence of PFAS in multiple locations, our need for local, high-quality water testing will only increase.

A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific is not just a convenience—it is a necessity. Establishing this resource will empower our communities with the ability to respond swiftly and effectively to potential threats to our water supply.

I urge the Committee to PASS HCR18/HR18 as a critical first step toward ensuring safe drinking water for future generations.

Mahalo for your time and consideration, Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:11:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to pass this resolution towards a study on the feasibility of establishing a local EPA-certified water testing lab capable of testing for contaminants such as PFAS and total petroleum hydrocarbons, at the detection levels we need. Currently, no such lab exists in Hawaii.

PFAS--forever chemicals linked to significant health risks, including but not limited to cancer, liver damage, developmental issues, weakened immune systems, and endocrine disruption--have already been detected in the Navy's water system and near military sites across Hawai'i due to the military's criminal negligence. To protect the health and safety of our communities, it is critical that we take steps toward assessing and then remediation of PFAS contamination throughout the State.

This resolution is a first step to securing a local water lab that can better protect our communities and water systems from toxic contamination by providing water test results in a much more timely and reliable manner.

I urge you to pass this critical resolution.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:17:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judy Ilar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm surprised this is not already being done. Doesn't the board of water supply check if our drinking water is safe? Please remove flouride in our water

Mahalo

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 7:13:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Diane Ware and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Respectfully,

Diane Ware

Volcano

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 7:21:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Morris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Monica Morris and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to PASS HCR18/HR18 as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Sincerely, Monica Morris

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 8:23:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Miyata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please vote yes to support testing our water so that our children will be healthy and not be harmed by toxic chemicals unknowingly.

Mahalo for being responsible, caring legislatures,

Linda

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:18:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Gueco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HCR18 as it's more important than ever to test our drinking water here in Hawaii since there has been many infractions like that of the fuel spill in Red Hill.

I live on the beautiful windward/east end of the island and can tell you that our water has drastically changed since the fall of 2022. Prior to this, we could drink straight from the tap and had no problems with smell or taste. Since September of 2022, we have not been able to drink from the tap or even use the same water filter that we used to, Brita. The water basically smells and taste pretty unbearable and undrinkable. We had to find another water filter that is much more effective and expensive. We have to change the filter every month or we can't drink from it.

The parts per million of solids, particles, etc. in our water (out of the tap) measures above 300, between 300-400 depending on the time of day. That's ridiculously high!

We all need clean, healthy water. It is the source of life.

Please support this measure to do a study in hopes that we can build an EPA certified laboratory to be able to test our water, and other things, not just for our generation but for those to come.

Thank you.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:24:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Luke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, VC, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HCR18 and its companion HR18 to establish a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water. I keep reading in the paper about having to wait for results of samples sent to the mainland. We need the support of an EPA-certified water testing lab here in the Pacific where there has been questionable military activity in the past that needs to be addressed because of erosion.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Karen Luke in Ewa Beach

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:54:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Nakanelua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

ALOHA,

AS SOMEONE WHO LIVES IN KAILUA AND BEGAN TO NOTICE THE SMELL OF CHLORINE OR BLEACH COMING FROM MY FAUCET ABOUT 2 YEARS AGO, I STRONGLY SUPPORT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILIY OF ESTABLISHING AN EPA-CERTIFIED LAB IN HAWAII TO TEST DRINKING WATER SAMPLES FOR TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS.

I APPRECIATE REP SHIMIZU AND OTHERS TAKING THE TIME TO CONSIDER THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF HAWAII RESIDENTS.

MAHALO NUI FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION,

LAURA

LAURA NAKANELUA

LAURA.NAKANELUA@GMAIL.COM

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:04:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louella Vidinha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of this bill.

Having a structured program, a laboratory to test contaminants in our drinking water seems to be common sense. We need healthy drinking water and by avoiding issues of contaminants before we drink unsafe water is the right path.

Louella Vidinha

Hawaii resident

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:11:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bo Breda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Bo Breda and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Sincerely,
Bo Breda

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:13:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Peter Wilson and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Sincerely,
Peter Wilson

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:14:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Reese Liggett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is William Reese Liggett and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Sincerely,
William Reese Liggett

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:36:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patrice Choy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR18/HR18.

As Hawaii continues to face a toxic water crisis, a local, EPA-certified water testing lab is crucial to set up, as soon as possible. This is a no-brainer issue and we must have water testing available in Hawaii because no one is willing to shut down the atrocious behavior of the Navy, as it continues to deny responsibility for poisoning our water.

Please pass HCR18/HR18 to help put Hawaii on the right track to having a local lab to test our water.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:54:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Altemus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Barbara Altemus and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Sincerely,

Barbara Altemus

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 11:17:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Mitsumori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

Sincerely,
Michele Mitsumori
Hilo

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 4:19:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Plowman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support.

HR-18

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 4:22:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2025 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodi Rodar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jodi Rodar and I strongly support HCR18/HR18, which would take a first step towards the establishment of a local, EPA-certified water testing lab that can help protect communities in Hawai‘i and across the Pacific from toxic contamination in their drinking water.

As we have seen in the Red Hill water crisis, our islands must rely on water testing facilities on the continent to determine whether there may be toxic contamination of a drinking water source. This has already resulted in delays and damaged samples that have left community members in limbo for extended lengths of time. With a spreading plume of 5,000 gallons or more of jet fuel in O‘ahu’s aquifer; an additional 2 million gallons of unaccounted-for jet fuel, PFAS, and other contaminants released from the Red Hill Facility over the last 80 years; and additional concerns regarding groundwater contamination from PFAS in Waiawa, Kunia, Kapolei, and elsewhere; our water testing needs will only increase over time. A local lab that can serve both Hawai‘i and other jurisdictions across the Pacific may therefore be vital to ensuring that we can protect our present and future generations from toxic exposure through their drinking water in a timely and reliable manner.

Accordingly, I urge the Committee to **PASS HCR18/HR18** as a first step towards establishing a local lab and meeting our water testing needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jodi Rodar