



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Wednesday, March 27, 2019
2:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
SB 908, SD 2, HD 1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Office of Planning supports SB 908, SD 2, HD 1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. SB 908, SD 2, HD 1, establishes a Statewide Sustainability Division within the Office of Planning to ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies.

It is the Office of Planning's intent that the Sustainability Coordinator position will serve as the administrator of this proposed Statewide Sustainability Division, and the corresponding staff proposed in this measure will serve under the management of the Sustainability Coordinator.

Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 226-108, the Sustainability Priority Guidelines and Principles of the Hawaii State Planning Act, and the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2016, the Office of Planning filled a new Sustainability Coordinator position in June 2017 to provide statewide sustainability planning, coordination and collaboration for the implementation of Hawaii's many sustainability goals and policies.

This sole Sustainability Coordinator position recently assisted the Hawaii State Auditor's Office on behalf of the Office of Planning to provide and publish a statewide measurement update to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, pursuant to an unfunded decennial update requirement established through Act 8 Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, as amended by Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006. Published in March 2018, the ten year measurement update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, the first of its kind over the past decade, reviewed the data collected over the course of ten years and evaluated the metrics and indicators measuring Hawaii's progress toward sustainability according to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan's original 5 goals, 9 "2020 benchmarks," 22 strategic actions, and 55 indicators.

The State of Hawaii has lacked a permanent governmental sustainability coordinating entity to assist with the implementation of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and the State of Hawaii's numerous sustainability goals and policies. SB 908, SD 2 establishes a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability to serve as a foundation for the State of Hawaii's sustainability policies in addition to the Hawaii State Planning Act's Sustainability Priority Guidelines and Principles set forth in HRS § 226-108.

Additionally, the recent update of the 2018 State of Hawaii's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan recommended to *“develop a sustainability program at the state-level, headed by the Sustainability Coordinator. Currently the Sustainability Coordinator is funded, but has no operating budget. Task coordinator with developing the program, establishing a clearing house for sustainability information and initiatives, coordinate with departments and agencies, and track implementation of projects and programs.”*

SB 908, SD 2, HD 1, establishes a governmental sustainability coordinating entity within the State's Office of Planning and provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination with recognized responsibilities and authorities to develop, coordinate, and support the implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

The Office of Planning finds that SB 908 is complimentary and consistent with the purpose of the Office of Planning found in HRS §225M-1, as follows:

“The purpose of this chapter is to establish an office of planning to assist the governor and the director of business, economic development, and tourism in maintaining an overall framework to guide the development of the State through a continuous process of comprehensive, long-range, and strategic planning to meet the physical, economic, and social needs of Hawaii's people, and provide for the wise use of Hawaii's resources in a coordinated, efficient, and economical manner, including the conservation of those natural, environmental, recreational, scenic, historic, and other limited and irreplaceable resources which are required for future generations.

The establishment of an office of planning in the department of business, economic development, and tourism, for administrative purposes, is intended to:

- (1) Fix responsibility and accountability to successfully carry out statewide planning programs, policies, and priorities;*
- (2) Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the operations of the executive branch;*
- (3) Ensure comprehensive planning and coordination to enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawaii.”*

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 — 2:30 p.m. — Room 308

Ulupono Initiative Supports SB 908 SD 2 HD 1, Relating to Sustainability

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono supports SB 908 SD 2 HD 1, which establishes a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning to ensure long-term planning, coordination, prioritization, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies.

For private sector and non-profit foundation funders, stakeholders, advocates, and the general public that are interested in a variety of sustainability sectors, it is often difficult to navigate State government to get things done. This is especially true when multiple State departments are involved, the definition of sustainability differs by party, and, in many situations, sustainability is more of an afterthought.

Ulupono is working with the City and County of Honolulu's Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency to work across City agencies. We are confident that their efforts will result in successful outcomes, and we hope that a similar State office counterpart can be created. If implemented, Ulupono will work collaboratively with this office to move key public-private partnership projects and policies forward.

As Hawai'i's issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

SB-908-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2019 8:25:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brian Miyamoto | Hawaii Farm Bureau | Support | Yes |

Comments:



To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Brodie Lockard, Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 2:30 pm

In support of SB908 SD2 HD1

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members—

Organizing for Action supports SB908 SD2 HD1.

This bill will

- Establish a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability to serve as a foundation for the State of Hawaii's sustainability policies; and
- Support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination with recognized responsibilities and authorities to update, coordinate, and support the implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

Please pass SB908 SD2 HD1 and ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard
Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action



March 25, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Design Thinking Hawaii (DTH), I am writing in support of HB supporting SB908, SD2 HD1 relating to the sustainability. Design Thinking Hawaii (DTH) was established in 2010 to promote and support the introduction, training, adoption, use, and implementation of the design thinking process in organizations, governmental units, schools, not-for-profit organizations, and other corporations. DTH is a Hawaii non-profit corporation exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, and has a history of working with government, education, public, private and non-profit stakeholders in our trainings.

In 2018, DTH completed a state-funded project to develop a sustainability website. DTH successfully completed the project and strongly believes it critical that a division within the Office of Planning be established to continue the sustainability work initiated with the Hawaii 2050 plan. SB908, SD2 HD1 establishes a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning to ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies. The establishment of the division will demonstrate the State of Hawaii's commitment to sustainable practices, and support thoughtful planning and coordinated efforts for Hawaii.

Design Thinking Hawaii strongly supports SB908, SD2 HD1. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Very Sincerely,
Keith T. Matsumoto, Administrator
designthinkinghawaii@gmail.com
(808) 258-9209

SB-908-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2019 7:40:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Chris Barzman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I was to strongly support this Bill. This will help Hawaii immensely on its path to a more sustainable future which is good for everyone involved.

SB-908-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2019 9:06:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ian Tierney | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

I am in strong support of SB 908, SD2 HD1, Relating to Sustainability. The State of Hawaii has lacked a permanent governmental sustainability coordinating entity to assist with the implementation of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and the State of Hawaii's numerous sustainability goals and policies. SB 908, SD 2 HD1, establishes a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability to serve as a foundation for the State of Hawaii's sustainability policies in addition to the Hawaii State Planning Act's Sustainability Priority Guidelines and Principles set forth in HRS § 226-108.

Mahalo for your ongoing support for this Office in SB 908, SD2 HD1.

Ian Tierney

Honolulu 96816



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FOUNDERS

David Gottfried
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S. Richard Fedrizzi

LATE

March 27, 2019

House Finance Committee
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 306 – transmitted via web
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 908 SD2 HD1, Establishing and Funding a Statewide Sustainability Division

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

On behalf of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), our nearly 9,000 member companies nationwide, and our strong community in Hawai'i,¹ we appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Senate Bill 908/SD2 HD1, regarding establishing and funding a statewide sustainability division.

USGBC and LEED in Hawai'i

USGBC is a nonprofit organization committed to transforming the way all buildings and communities are designed, built, and operated to support a more sustainable, resilient, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life for all.

Our flagship green building rating system, LEED, is a critical tool that has been proven effective at creating high performing buildings in Hawai'i, with industry stakeholders, including building owners, developers, and tenants. In fact, Hawai'i again made our list of the Top 10 States for LEED this year, with projects such as the Hawai'i Convention Center (awarded Gold, LEED v4 Operations and Maintenance).² LEED continues to grow in the Hawai'i market, with over 200 certified projects amounting to more than 19 million square feet in total.³ Moreover, high performing green building creates opportunities for the creation of quality, local jobs.

SB908 will Benefit Hawai'i Sustainability and Resilience

We support this bill, and the establishment of a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning to ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies. Providing structure, funding, and permanence to this office is critical to ensure that policies are coordinated and efficient. As the office assists with the implementation of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, and other key policies, we see opportunities for efficiency and reinforcement across

¹ See <https://www.usgbc.org/usgbc-hawaii>

² See <https://www.usgbc.org/articles/three-leed-projects-contributing-hawaii's-top-10-states-ranking>

³ [State Market Briefs](#), U.S. Green Building Council.



agencies and to optimally engage private sector organizations and companies to support Hawai'i's goals and interests. USGBC urges the members of the Finance committee to support SB 908 SD2 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration of our remarks. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance or have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Islam".

Melanie Islam, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, LFA
Board Chair
USGBC Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Beardsley".

Elizabeth Beardsley, P.E.
Senior Policy Counsel
U.S. Green Building Council

cc: Alysson Blackwelder, USGBC
Melanie Colburn, USGBC