

OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND
WATER, LAND, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Thursday, February 6, 2020
9:15 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 2029
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.

Chairs Lowen and Yamane, Vice Chairs Wildberger and Todd, and Members of the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Office of Planning **supports** HB 2029, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

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

The Office of Planning recognizes that statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond one individual position. HB 2029 establishes a governmental sustainability coordinating entity as a statewide sustainability division 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 Hawai'i's sustainability goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

HB 2029 also establishes a stronger legal framework, similar to the State of Oregon's sustainability statute, 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 Hawai'i State Planning Act's Sustainability Priority Guidelines and Principles set forth in HRS § 226-108.

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

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com




February 6, 2020

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Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer 

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
and Members
Committee on Energy and Environment Protection
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
Committee on Water, Land and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Lowen and Yamane and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2029, Relating to Sustainability

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports House Bill (HB) 2029. This bill is to establish a stronger policy framework for Hawaii's sustainability efforts, by incorporating sustainability coordination and planning duties and responsibilities of the office of planning by establishing a statewide sustainability division within the office of planning to ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies.

As the State and county agencies move forward to implement recommendations of the Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report (Report), there needs to be a coordinated effort between both the State and counties.

BWS is actively working with the City's Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (OCCSR) and the Honolulu Climate Change Commission on the implementation of various components of the Report.

Based on the recommendations of OCCSR and the Honolulu Climate Change Commission, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu executed the Honolulu Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Directive 18-02 on July 16, 2018, which directs all City agencies to incorporate the findings of the Report into their long-range plans and Capital Improvement Programs (CIP).

LATE

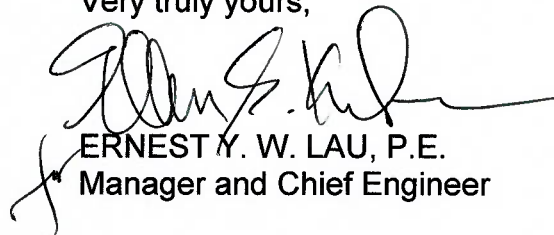
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
and Members
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
February 6, 2020
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The BWS recognizes that climate change and sea level rise will impact the sustainability of Oahu's water resources and coastal water infrastructure. As such, vulnerability assessments and adaptation measures needed to be prioritized and implemented. BWS recently completed its vulnerability assessment entitled Impacts of Climate Change on Honolulu Water Supplies & Planning Strategies for Mitigation (2019) and have incorporated the findings into our long-range CIP. The expansion of the Honouliuli Water Recycling Facility (completed in December 2019) and the proposed Kalaeloa Seawater Desalination Project are among other BWS infrastructure resilience projects. Climate change and sea level rise adaptation is currently being incorporated in our regional watershed management plans for South Oahu (Ewa, Central Oahu, Primary Urban Center and East Honolulu).

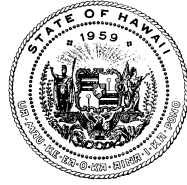
<https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/bws/media/files/water-research-foundation-4637-climate-change-impacts-on-honolulu-water-supplies-2019.pdf>

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony in support of HB 2029.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2029
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.**

REP. NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

REP. RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: February 6, 2020

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports HB2029 as it establishes an
3 important legal and policy framework to assure planning, coordination, and collaborative
4 implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability strategy.

5 Establishing a governmental sustainability coordinating entity within the State's Office of
6 Planning and provide the necessary staffing and operating expenses to support comprehensive
7 statewide sustainability coordination with recognized responsibilities and authorities to develop,
8 coordinate, and support the implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals, priorities, and
9 planning throughout government.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

11

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 3:43:25 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henry Curtis	Life of the Land	Support	Yes

Comments:

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 10:33:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexandra Kahn	Surfrider Oahu	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/6/2020 5:26:06 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Miyamoto	Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 3:18:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kristine.sellona	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Kristine Joy Sellona and I am originally from California. I got my Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from California Baptist University and I am currently attending Hawaii Pacific University for my Master of Arts in Global Leadership and Sustainable Development. I support HB2029 first and foremost because I think sustainability in general is such a significant ability to adopt in order to ensure our survival and the survival of many generations to come after us. From the courses I have taken thus far regarding my current degree, I am shocked that it took me having to enter a master's program to truly start learning about sustainability. Sustainability is so fun and exciting, and many people are VERY passionate about this subject. Moreover, I believe many more people would realize they are passionate about sustainability too, especially if sustainability were to reach the core of huge stakeholders like the government, because sustainability embodies values such as fairness, justice, and community, ideals everybody wants! Being able to create a sustainability division within the State of Hawaii, which is an ISLAND, I think is a very key move to ensure that we have individuals in power seeking to guide us to a bright and promising future. Hawaii can lead the way.

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 5:47:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2029

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 10:49:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 6, 2020

TIME: 9:15 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

HEARING HB2029

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT HB2029**

The language in HB2029 reflects the sediments of Act 181 of 2011, by establishing a stronger policy framework for Hawaii's sustainability efforts. This bill enables the Office of planning to establish a statewide sustainability division that will be tasked to ensure not just short-term outlook but long-term planning, coordination.

In addition, the language contained in this proposed measure particularly subsection (C) stating, "Promote investments and expenditures to improve the efficient use of energy, water, food security, and other resources". This reflects the idea of long-term strategy and has been inclusive of economically distressed communities as stated in subsection (A), and (D).

Another area of prudence reflected in this proposed measure is the creations of positions for this new division reflected upon in section 5. This bill should be passed out of this committee and all efforts to strengthen the measure should be taken. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm