

# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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# Testimony of SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

#### before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Friday, March 12, 2021 1:00 PM Via Videoconference

In support of SCR44/SR30 (Written Testimony Only)

# DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SCR44/SCR30, which would declare a climate emergency and request statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. HSEO believes the transition from carbon intensive energy sources to less carbon intensive energy sources requires thoughtful, careful analysis and community engagement to ensure equitable and just outcomes to repair our climate.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN

CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

Council Chair Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Tasha Kama

Councilmembers Gabe Johnson Kelly Takaya King Michael J. Molina Tamara Paltin Shane M. Sinenci Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL** 

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

March 10, 2021

- TO: Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
- FROM: Councilmember Kelly Takaya King Chair, Climate Action, Resilience, and Environment Committee Member, Board of Directors, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA

# SUBJECT: STRONG SUPPORT OF SR30, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to acknowledge the existential climate emergency threatening humanity and resolve to take immediate action toward a just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

# In 2019, the Maui County Council voted unanimously to adopt <u>Resolution 19-209</u> Acknowledging a Climate Emergency and Committing to an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Effort to Restore a Safe Climate.

In addition to the reasons our County Council identified recognizing the dire need for an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, I support this measure in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council for the following reasons:

- 1. Declaring a climate emergency will make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority among government organizations at a statewide level, and will prioritize the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.
- 2. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SR30 for the climate

March 10, 2021 Page 2

mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address the climate crisis.

- 3. We are in the midst of a climate crisis and need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.
- 4. Hawai`i is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns. SR30 moves us in the right direction by identifying the urgency of the issue and the need for a response that matches the speed and scale of climate change.

For the foregoing reasons, I **strongly support** this measure.

REBECCA VILLEGAS Council Member District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267 FAX: (808) 323-4786 EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

# HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy. Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

March 10, 2021

# TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL ON SR30 RELATING TO CLIMATE EMERGENCY; STATEWIDE COLLABORATION, AND GREENHOUSE GASES Committee on Agriculture and Environment Friday, March 12, 2021 1:00 p.m. Via Videoconference

Aloha Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SR30, relating to climate emergency, statewide collaboration, and greenhouse gases. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of the Hawai'i County Council Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management Committee.

The purpose of this measure is declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. Climate change affects human health and well-being. U.S Center for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have reported that climate change is a critical public health problem. Though steps are being taken to lessen climate change and its impacts on human health, we will still be impacted by global climate change due to large entities such as U.S., China, and the European Union, continuing to produce greenhouse gases at a scale and pace that runs the risk of run-away climate change. This causes an increased risk for health effects from climate change to our most vulnerable people. Increased risk for health effects from climate change will further stress the health care infrastructure, and financial systems.

For the reasons stated above I urge the Committee on Agriculture and Environment to support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration



Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Rebecca Villegas Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:53:22 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nadine NEWLIGHT	Testifying for Facing Future	Support	No

Comments:

STRONGLY SUPPORT!

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 7:10:59 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Testifying for Hawai?i Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

# Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-chair Nishihara, and members of the AEN Committee,

My name is Dyson Chee, I am 18 years old, and I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition (HYCC) in strong support of SR30.

HYCC is a youth-led, youth-founded organization dedicated to taking on the climate crisis through just and equitable means. Although our generation is on the front line in taking the brunt of the climate crisis, we are already seeing its impacts pervading our lives today, whether it be our streets falling into the ocean or the decreasing tradewinds.

COVID-19 has taught us a harsh lesson of being unprepared for a natural disastor, and we would be wise to learn from it. It will take wide-spread collaboration and mobilization of our resources to equip ourselves against the increasingly inevitable impacts of climate change. But we must not forget about the communities that are disproportionately imapcted by climate change as we move towards a more resilient future. That future needs to be just and equitable as well.

Our generation yearns for a future where we belong in Hawai'i. Unfortunately, with climate change looming on the horizon, a small island state seems like a poor place to live out our future. We must take bold action now. We cannot wait 'till 2045 to put out the fire in our house, for it will have spread uncontrollably by that point. For the sake of Hawai'i's future, we urgently ask that you please pass SR30.

Sincerely,

Dyson Chee

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 1:22:27 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Brandt	Testifying for Foresight/Policy Analysis	Support	No

#### Comments:

Please support SR30 and SCR44 to start an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, and to immediately begin a just transition. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a healthy climate for our children's future.

We need a declaration of climate emergency so the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized. Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part and keep within our carbon budget.

As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns and more severe local storms. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem.

If everyone just continues to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

As the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has said: "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

SCR44 and SR30 move us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments in or subsidies for projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining.

Please support and pass SCR44 and SR30.

Mahalo and Aloha!

Thomas Brandt

Foresight and Policy Analysis

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 8:42:37 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Harris	Testifying for The Climate Mobilization	Support	No

# Comments:

The Climate Mobilization is thrilled to support SR30. By advancing this Resolution, Hawaii will join more than 1,910 governments around the world and 138 local governments in the U.S. that have passed Climate Emergency Declarations. We applaud Hawaii's leadership in considering this measure.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 9:22:58 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Dolena	Testifying for Pele Lani Farm LLC	Support	No

Comments:

# MORE URGENT THAN COVID-19

-I support SCR44 and SR30 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

-Don't be swayed by those short-sighted individuals that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown.

Mahalo!

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 11:03:02 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evan Lam	Testifying for Circlepack Hawaii	Support	No

## Comments:

Greetings to the AEN Committee,

I write to you today in support of SCR44.

I write to you as a son of Hawaii Island, a local sustainability business owner, a young man and part of a global effort to professionally respond to the Climate Emergency.

For the sake of ourselves, our loved ones and our communities, it is imperative Hawaii purposefully does it's part in avoiding global climate catastrophe. It is true our environmental footprint only makes up a tiny portion of the global total...but, I ask you, how many of our reefs must die from pollution before we cast this weak argument aside?

How many of our critical water systems must run dry? Shall we wait for the next, stronger hurricane, or set of hurricanes, to devastate our communities?

We face no non-radical choices when it comes to this crisis. Either we face a world 2 degrees hotter, which is a radically different world than we know now, or we face a radical transformation of the highest emitting actors, the 10 -30% of the global population who comprises over half of the emissions footprint. It's worth noting some of that population holds properties and lives throughout our islands.

Just as people are at the heart of this local-global issue, people are also at the heart of the solution. Many of those solutionists can be found in our most underfunded, neglected communities, especially here on Hawaii Island. I know a few of them and work with them. They are in need of the full support of our islands as a remedy to both the past and the future.

Declaring a climate emergency is a crucial step to framing the situation correctly and setting the stage for mobilization of all our resources in a just transition. It is a crucial step in support of the efforts of people like myself and my team members as we strive to build professional teams with the capacitices to achieve real decarbonization results at speed, scale and equity.

Hawaii is positioned to be at the forefront of a global response to this crisis with teams of decarbonziation and stewardship professionals positioned as a force for good, treading in the footsteps of the many extraordinary explorers who have come before us. We must address the inequities and injustices done to our indigenous communities by putting resources directly into their hands. We must allow ourselves to be changed by the needs of this emergency so we can respond effectively. We must form new mindsets, organizational structures and -most of all- teams in order to change our probabilities of success. All too often, we have been forced to react, to place band aids on a bleeding wound, and now is the critical window where we must be purposefully, strategic and proactive to avoid the potential deaths of our civiliizations.

Our future generations will know your leadership by the risks you take for the common good and the courage with which you face the consequences.

We all have a leadership role to play in this crisis, this is your opportunity to play yours. Respectfully, please delcare this emergency and then follow through with action and resources.

Sincerely, Evan Lam

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 4:52:06 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
laurel brier	Testifying for Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	No

# Comments:

This Resolution will give the legislature the neccessaey and pono framework needed for comprehensive action needed to address the Climate Crisis now.



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaiʻi

March 10, 2021

- To: Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
- Re: SCR 44/ SR 30 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE
- Meeting: Friday, March 12, 2021, 1:00 p.m., via videoconference
- Position: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha, Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and its Natural Resources Committee are in **strong support** of SCR 44 and SR 30, as it proposes to declare a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, all of which are consistent with the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH") Party Platform.

The Democratic Party of Hawai`i has adopted at its 2018 State Convention, clear safeguards to protect and promote our clean and healthy environment. At page 17 of the DPH Platform, it specifically provides, to wit:

## **ENVIRONMENT**

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment is essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i.

We believe in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement. We support programs that encourage Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment March 10, 2021 Page 2

sustainable clean, efficient, creative and environmentally friendly modes of transportation, recycling and waste reduction.

The conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawai'i's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations.

We support the protection of our '*āina* against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our fresh water resources.

We support democratic participation of citizens and residents to protect (i) valuable coastal ecosystems and reefs from misuse and (ii) beaches for public use and recreation. The Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, HRS Chapter 205A, currently provides for public participation in management of coastal resources.

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources.

We know that climate change is a real threat to our islands and the world. We strongly urge our candidates and elected officials to take immediate action to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. This includes funding adaptation measures including coastal retreat, effective participation of indigenous peoples in climate change governance, and recognition that indigenous, local, and traditional ecological knowledge is key in climate change adaptation solutions.

Further, the DPH Platform provides on page 18 as follows:

# CONFRONT GLOBAL THREATS AND GLOBAL CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

Climate change poses an urgent and severe threat to our National Security, and DPH believes it would be a grave mistake for the United States to wait for another nation to take the lead in combating the global climate emergency. According to the U.S. military, climate change is a threat multiplier that is already contributing to new conflicts over resources, catastrophic natural disasters, and the degradation

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment March 10, 2021 Page 3

of vital ecosystems across the globe. DPH recognizes the catastrophic consequences facing our State, our country, our planet, and civilization.

We believe that Hawai'i must lead in forging a robust global solution to the climate crisis. We are committed to a national mobilization, and to leading a global effort to mobilize nations to address this threat. Our generation must lead the fight against climate change and we applaud Hawai'i's leadership in joining the historic Paris Climate Accord. We will not only meet the goals set in Paris, we will seek to exceed them and push other countries to do the same by slashing carbon pollution and rapidly driving down emissions of potent greenhouse gases like hydrofluorocarbons. We will support other States and developing countries in their efforts to mitigate carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases, deploy more clean energy, and invest in climate resilience and adaptation.

Specifically, SCR 44 and SR 30 call for a statewide commitment toward (1) a decarbonized economy using clean energy, providing quality jobs, providing financial and regulatory assistance to achieve zero emissions to meet the IPCC emission target to limit warming to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius; (2) a prohibition against further public or private investments in coal, oil, gas, and tree-burning projects and instead invest in low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining; (3) facilitating investments in zero emissions energy, electric vehicles, State and county clean fleet transition, energy efficiency, reforestation, afforestation, climate-smart agriculture, and climate-friendly land use; and (4) a time-phased implementation plan requiring departmental reports that utilize a lifecycle greenhouse gas analysis that includes a Climate Impacts section that covers information on how the proposed action will impact green gas reduction efforts.

We strongly urge you to pass SCR 44 and SR 30, as it proposes to declare a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, all of which are consistent with the DPH Platform.

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment March 10, 2021 Page 4

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on these important issues.

Respectfully yours,

Alan B. Burdick Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus Co-Chair, Natural Resources Committee Democratic Party of Hawai`i Email: <u>burdick808@gmail.com</u>

Melodie R. Aduja Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus Co-Chair, Human Environmental Impacts Committee Democratic Party of Hawai`i Email: <u>legislativepriorities@gmail.com</u> Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

PO BOX 6310 Hilo, HI 96720 hawaiidriveelectric@gmail.com



March 11, 2021

**STRONG SUPPORT for SCR44 and SR30** (DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE)

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee,

#### Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association is in STRONG SUPPORT of SCR44 and SR30.

A climate emergency declaration is a powerful acknowledgment of the urgency and importance of the crisis. It will help our communities get behind necessary actions to reduce our emissions and to prepare for the inevitable consequences of global warming.

We are, sadly, becoming accustomed to the impact of climate change. Here and across the globe, mega-fires, unusual winter storms, rain bombs, powerful hurricanes, droughts, and other calamities have become too familiar. These signs will, unfortunately, worsen as global temperatures rise and sea levels rise.

Hawaii is doing its part to reduce its emissions and, in some ways, leading in terms of long-term vision. Our 100% RPS and transportation decarbonization goals are translating into action – we see good progress in the renewable energy space, and electric vehicle adoption is starting to rise. Recent innovations in renewable energy, energy storage, carbon sequestration, sustainable transportation, along with economies of scale) are making the transformation not only good for our environment and people but also our economy.

However, much more is needed if we are to make a timely and meaningful impact. CO2 emissions continue to rise – it is now 416 PPM, higher than it was this time last year. EVs are still just over 1% of the over 1 million cars on our roads, collectively consuming around 30,000,000 gallons of gasoline each month (DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends). We are still very reliant on fossil fuel for our energy production, with over 500,000 barrels consumed each month (DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends). This dependency contributes to significant planet-warming emissions and reliance on energy supplies that are subject to geopolitical risk.

We have the opportunity to turn to our abundant renewable sources for our energy needs. Notably, the cost of renewable energy and storage is now cheaper or on par with fossil fuels, particularly in Hawaii with our very high fuel and electricity prices. We also have the opportunity to turn to zero-emissions vehicles – battery electric vehicles and fuel cell electric vehicles. These vehicles are becoming more diverse, are increasing in driving range, and are coming down in price. They are cleaner and more cost-effective to operate and offer Hawaii's residents the opportunity to contribute directly to a reduction in carbon emissions and cleaner air.

SCR44 and SR30 will encourage the **focus** and **action** to allow Hawaii to make a timely transition to a cleaner and more sustainable future. Please support it.

#### Sincerely,

#### Hawaii EV Association Board

Noel Morin – President, Nanette Vinton – Secretary, Sonja Kass – Director, Tam Hunt – Director, Bill Bugbee - Director

**Hawaii EV Association** is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org.

Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii hi.ccl.lobby@gmail.com



March 11, 2021

**STRONG SUPPORT** for **SCR44** and **SR30**, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee,

# On behalf of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) Hawaii, we testify in strong support of SCR44 and SR30.

CCL Hawaii is comprised of over 800 members in four local chapters - Hawaii Island, Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui. We advocate for effective, efficient, and fair climate legislation.

A climate emergency declaration will signal the urgency and importance of our climate crisis and the need for timely and effective action. A climate emergency would put Hawaii in good company – over 1900 governments in 34 countries have declared climate emergencies<sup>1</sup>. This level of support highlights the global acknowledgment of the crisis. A Hawaii State declaration will further cement our state's commitment to action and complements those made by our counties over the past few years<sup>2</sup>. Importantly, SCR44 lays out critical steps that we must take; it goes beyond a mere acknowledgment of the crisis.

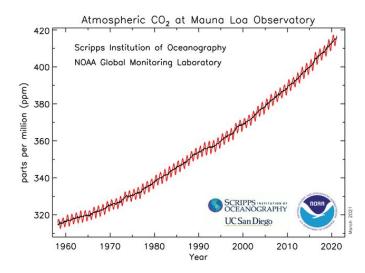
The effects of the crisis are upon us – we see record heat across the state, stronger storms, rain bombs, flooding, vectors spreading and killing native species, degradation of our marine ecosystem, and the erosive impact of rising sea levels. We cannot afford to hesitate or to delegate to future debate the actions that we must take to reduce our emissions and ensure that we will adapt to the inevitable environmental consequences.

Hawaii is making good progress on climate-related goals, already among the most ambitious – our 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045 and transportation decarbonization plans are good examples. Additionally, we've seen annual attempts to introduce policies geared towards turning the tide on carbon emissions. In this legislative session, we've seen countless bills geared to increasing renewable energy production, ramping the electrification of transportation, improving food security, pricing carbon pollution, and enabling resilience.

While our actions and intentions are promising, we must act with more urgency. We need to back our promises with meaningful action. Global-warming emissions continue to rise – the monthly CO2 average measured on Mauna Loa was at 416 PPM, 2 points higher than in February 2020. The atmospheric CO2 concentration continues its awful upward trend.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of 9MAR2021. <u>ICEF Governments Emergency Declaration Spreadsheet</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hawaii County Council Resolution 322-19, October 2019 and Maui County Council Resolution 19-209, December 2019.



Source: NOAA Global Monitoring Laboratory

As a result, our planet continues to heat up, and we see the consequences, e.g., the acceleration of glacial melt, sea-level rise, wild weather, and climate disasters that have become too common. We must act with urgency and lead efforts to fight the causes of the crisis. We must accelerate the positive things that we are already doing, take on others to reduce our emissions, and inspire other governments to do the same.

CCL supports national climate legislation, particularly carbon pricing and the return of revenue to our households (i.e., carbon fee & dividend (CFD)). We believe it is one of the best policies to bring about a just transition and restore a safe climate. This policy is represented in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (energyinnovationact.org). This policy is equitable - it's progressive and protects lower-income households by leaving them better off, efficient (endorsed by over 3,500 economists, including 28 Nobel laureates), and effective (estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% in the first ten years of implementation). We are thankful that carbon pricing bills were introduced in the Hawaii Legislature this session and hope we will pass such a bill by the next session.

We owe it to our future generations – our keiki and their keiki deserve a liveable world. They are counting on us to make it so.

A climate emergency resolution and a commitment to an effective and coordinated effort will result in an even more urgent and laser-focused approach to addressing our existential threat.

Please support SCR44 and SR30.

Respectfully,

Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii State Coordinator - Molly Whiteley

Honolulu Chapter Leaders - Sara Bower, Charles Cox, Susan Gorman-Chang, Jaymen Laupola, Michael Lewis, and Paul Bernstein

Kauai Chapter Leaders - Helen Cox and John Latkiewicz

Maui Chapter Leaders - Carol Cam, Doug Hagan, Jeff Stark, and Barry Solomon

Hawaii Island Chapter Leaders - Zoe Whitney, Keith Neal, Joanna Norton, Richard Ha, Emily Garland, Nick Rosenberg, Noel Morin, and Ron Reilly

**Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change solutions. CCL Hawaii's 800+ members are part of a 180,000+ global organization. For more information, visit <u>citizensclimatelobby.org</u>.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 8:22:02 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Committee members of AEN,

On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 7,000 members and supporters statewide, we stand in STRONG SUPPORT for SCR44/SR30, declaring a Climate Emergency for the State of Hawaii.

This resolution is important right now because Global Warming is increasing much faster than scientists have predicted. Many governments around the world have set a goal to be fossil free by 2045, which we now know is woefully too late, because we are already seeing the effects of Climate Change with sea level rise, massive hurricanes, huge out-of-control wildfires, and extended droughts. Scientists warn that emissions need to drastically drop now, or climate destabilization will only grow worse.

Here are just a few examples of the disasters Climate Change is already causing around the world:

-Due to sea level rise, the people of Kiribati, who have lived on their islands for thousands of years, are already planning for the permanent evacuation of their island nation.

-In Alaska, Indigenous villages that have been on the coast for thousands of years are disappearing into the sea because of the melting permafrost.

-Due to Climate Change we are seeing the 6th great mass extinction with an average of 200 species of plants, insects, birds and mammals going extinct every day. This is dramatically seen in Puerto Rico where 99% of insects species have already disappeared due to Climate Change.

-The war in Syria started because of an extended drought brought on by Climate Change.

-Just a few weeks ago children in Texas froze to death in their beds as temperatures dropped to subzero amid a massive power outage due to power plants that were ill-equipped for the extreme weather.

-Many of the root causes of climate change also increase the risk of pandemics. The scientists who study how diseases emerge in a changing environment knew this moment was coming. COVID-19 may only be the beginning of increasing global pandemics.

These are just a few examples of the beginning of even greater disasters that are on the way.

With the evidence of the climate crisis mounting, 13,784 scientists from 156 countries, and 1,864 jurisdictions in 33 countries have already declared a Climate Emergency, urging politicians around the world to act now before it is too late.

Climate Change isn't waiting until we get ready, it is happening now, and it's time for us to act unitedly to protect our island homes and our future.

SCR44/SR30 is a wake up call to our government agencies, community groups, and businesses to acknowledge the reality of our situation and to start working together immediately with a common goal to combat the growing Climate Crisis. We can do this, but we must do it now. The longer we wait the amount of work we'll have to do, and the amount of money we will have to spend, will get greater and greater with each passing day.

Hawaii went into emergency mode to respond to COVID, and because we did we prevented the loss of thousands of lives and millions of dollars. Climate Change is an even greater disaster than COVID, so it is essential that we begin to act like it. Now is the time to do that.

Please pass SCR44/SR30, the Climate Emergency Resolution, for the sake of our health and safety, for the sake of our homes, for the sake of our economy, and most importantly of all, for the sake of our children's future.

Mahalo for your consideration. All my best to you and your families,

Dave Mulinix

Cofounder & Hawaii Statewide Community Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii.

**Big Island Electric Vehicle Association** 

www.bigislandev.org PO BOX 6310 Hilo, HI 96720



March 11, 2021

**STRONG SUPPORT for SCR44 and SR30** (DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE)

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Agriculture and Environment Committee members,

On behalf of the Big Island Electric Vehicle Association, I testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SCR44** and **SR30**.

The **Big Island Electric Vehicle Association** is an advocacy group established in 2011 to accelerate electric vehicles' adoption on Hawaii Island. Our members are EV owners, would-be EV powers, and supporters of sustainable transportation.

SCR44 and SR30 represent a significant acknowledgment of the urgent nature of our climate crisis. It will help galvanize our community around the various actions required to reduce Hawaii's global warming emissions. It will help us lead other states and countries to do the same.

We only need to reflect on the past few years' natural disasters to realize that climate change consequences are worsening. News of disappearing glaciers, warming polar regions, melting permafrost, and disruptions to crucial ocean currents raise extreme concern that we're approaching points of no return, where consequences exacerbate other consequences in a vicious spiral. Notably, atmospheric CO2 emissions continue to climb.

In many ways, Hawaii is leading. Our energy and transportation goals are aggressive and inspiring other governments to follow. We're also making good progress with our clean energy goals. However, we must do more. We still utilize a considerable amount of fossil fuel for our energy production and transportation needs. Our transportation consumes over 30,000,000 gallons of gasoline each month and highlights the size of this opportunity.

We should do better - we have access to many cost-effective solutions that can help us accelerate our progress. Renewable energy solutions are now cheaper than fossil-fuel-based options. Electric vehicles now come in many forms and price points and offer owners efficient, clean, and cost-effective transportation options.

SCR44 and SR30 will encourage us to take the climate crisis seriously and inspire action. Please support these, along with the various bills designed to accelerate our transition away from fossil fuels.

Sincerely, Noel Morin President



To:The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment (AEN)From:Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.orgDate:Friday, March 12, 2021, 1pm

# In STRONG SUPPORT of SCR44/SR30

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Committee members of AEN;

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii's 6,000 members **strongly support SCR44/SR30.** This resolution takes the critical and necessary step to declare a climate emergency and call for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

We are part of the last generation that can stop devastating climate change. This resolution would do more than just declare the obvious state of the climate crisis we know we are in. SCR44/SR30 establishes a framework for the type of bold actions needed to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a livable future for our children. Moreover, it will make climate action a priority across all parts of State government, which is crucial for us to truly and effectively address this crisis.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it is even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR44/SR30 lays out a roadmap to move us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments in or subsidies for projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling investments and subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. These efforts are a win-win as they will not only help protect the stability of our climate system, they will help ensure a just transition for communities and workers, including those currently employed in the fossil fuel industry, by helping to create quality, clean energy jobs, and as a result, a healthier local economy.

We ask that you not be swayed by those with short-sighted self-interests that may argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

We ask that you not be swayed by Climate Delayers, who have unlimited excuses for why we can't take meaningful action now to combat global warming, and have thwarted efforts for making meaningful

progress. For just like we thought it was impossible to provide remote testimony for hearings, another emergency, the COVID pandemic, taught us that things we didn't think could be done just took some focused ingenuity. As they say, necessity is the mother of invention.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report written by the world's leading climate scientists states we only have a few years left at our current rate of emissions before we exhaust our carbon budget to stay below 1.5°C warming. Their findings show that, in fact, there is no safe level of global warming, and that we are heading toward a profoundly inhospitable planet unless we take bold action now. The overwhelming tragedy in all of this is that we have all the tools we need, all we lack is the political will.

Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require **all of us** working together. Hawaii can and should be a leader in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children.

But combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a coordinated statewide action plan as in SCR44/SR30 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown. Too often the 'left hand' doesn't know what the 'right hand' is doing, and we waste money and precious time that could have been used to move us forward. With every second that we delay in reducing our carbon footprint, we impose costs on ourselves and on countless future generations. If we want to avoid climate catastrophe, we need to act boldly and effectively now.

In closing, I wish to share the words of a young climate activist who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, Greta Thunberg.

"Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope, but I don't want your hope. I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is."

It's time to declare a climate emergency. Because it is.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of this very important resolution.

Sherry Pollack Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

#### March 12, 2021 Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment In SUPPORT SR30/SCR44: Climate Emergency; Statewide Collaboration; Greenhouse Gases

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the AEN Committee,

We, the 15 undersigned organizations, are in STRONG SUPPORT of passage of SR30 and SCR44 "Declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate."

We are a coalition of concerned organizations that support and endorse a climate emergency declaration and society-wide mobilization of resources. Scientists say we have reached a tipping point on climate action and have less than a decade left to avoid the most severe consequences of global warming. It's time to act at emergency speed to reach zero emissions to protect all people, species, and eco-systems. We must act now to implement 100% zero-emission energy; electric vehicles; energy efficiency; and local, sustainable food production.

This is necessary because global warming is happening faster than scientists predicted and we are already seeing the dramatic impacts on the environment: larger and stronger hurricanes, increased drought and flooding, shifting rain patterns, more and larger wildfires, a hotter and more acidic ocean, and damaged ecosystems across the planet.

Due to this growing climate crisis 13,784 scientists from 156 countries, and 1,864 jurisdictions in 33 countries have already declared a climate emergency as of January 26, 2021.

Based upon the scientific information and expertise available, Hawaii is in danger of disaster occurrences as a result of the effects of global warming, thereby endangering the health, safety, and welfare of the people, warranting preemptive and protective action.

It is the duty of our legislature to fulfill the mandate of the Hawaii State Constitution that adopts the public trust doctrine for the benefit of the people and the right of each person to a clean and healthful environment. Therefore, we call upon the legislature to declare a climate emergency and initiate a statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

We urge you to pass SR30 and SCR44. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this critical matter.



# FAITH ACTION FOR COMMUNITY EQUITY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

#### Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment March 12, 2021 at 1pm Via Videoconference

## Support of SCR44 and SR30

The Environmental Justice Task Force of Faith Action for Community Equity supports SCR44 and SR30. We are almost out of time to avoid a crisis that will dwarf, measured by impact, any other crisis that humanity has faced, and the crisis is entirely preventable if we make serious, meaningful changes now.

Declaring a climate emergency is a necessary and good step to take to address the seriousness of the climate crisis and to demonstrate that we plan to take this issue seriously.

Support it for posterity,

Support it for economic and social justice,

Support it because you want to preserve nature,

Support it because others are looking to Hawaii for leadership,

For all this and more, the Environmental Justice Task Force of Faith Action for Community Equity urges you to support SCR44 and SR30.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 4:01:05 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

There is no time to waste.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:03:53 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william metzger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Our climate is in a state of crisis. We must act and act soon.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:15:34 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniela Escontrela	Individual	Support	No

# Comments:

Don't be swayed by those short-sighted individuals that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:18:17 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon Levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Again please support this bill.

Mahalo,

Sharon Levine

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:19:34 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TOM DIGRAZIA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We strongly support this Bill, as outlined in our remarks in support of SCR44.

Tom DiGrazia & Family

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:23:25 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR44 and SR30 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 5:40:11 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Edmondson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

# Aloha, PLEASE! For the sake of our children you must support all possible, just means to limit the climate crisis!

Show Hawaii's pono leadership to the world. Mahalo!

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 8:42:46 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kawamoto	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is John Kawamoto, and I support SR 30, which declares a climate emergency and urges urgent action to make climate action a priority for Hawaii.

Climate change is accelerating, and human-induced global warming has already led global temperatures to rise an average of one degree Centigrade over preindustrial levels. Further temperature increases would lead to widespread drought, crop failures, floods, wildfires, energy blackouts, infrastructure breakdowns, supply chain breakdowns, and infectious disease outbreaks that would be devastating and irreversible. Hawaii must do much more to reduce its consumption of fossil fuels in order to do its share to control climate change.

Climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination must be a top priority, with an appropriate level of financial and other resources dedicated to it, along with appropriate regulatory controls.

We need to create a livable environment for ourselves, our children, their children, and future generations. Hawaii has an abundance of renewable energy resources, so we should be leading the world by example.

Notably, the resolution calls for the following: (1) The organization and tracking of a time-phased implementation plan that assigns state government agencies' responsibilities and timetables; (2) The establishment of task dependencies between departments with a priority to plan and coordinate, at a statewide level, all climate and resilience responses; and (3) A robust climate emergency public education and stakeholder outreach process.

For the foregoing reasons, I support SR 30.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 9:27:59 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SCR44 and SR30 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. Human beings and our non human relatives have a responsibility to acknowledge the truth of what is happening on our planet and take thoughtful and responsible actions to change course. This is one of them. Please do this for both our ancestors and those yet to be born.

Mahalo for your consideration.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 9:33:18 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Haun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this ASAP. Climate change is an emergency.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 10:03:51 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Metzler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

There can be no denying that Hawaii and the world are in deep trouble from climate change. As a scientist I see the evidence and it is overwhelming. I recently saw a presentation by Dr. Chip Fletcher of the University of Hawaii on the climate crisis and it is truly scary on so many fronts. I urge you to invite him to speak and talk to him and other scientists about this crisis to understand its full implications. We must act now and in emergency mode. Please pass this resolution as a critical step.

Thank you.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2021 10:27:43 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Leake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Scientists have made clear that if are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. We therefore must declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 4:15:43 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Camp	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SR30 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 8:19:54 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Legislative Leadership,

Was the FLOODING on Oahu/Maui last night enough for you already!?! Buckle-up Buttercup; The WATERS ARE COMING!!!! This is just the very beginning! Like compounding interest it will get worst and worst until we reverse the CO2 count in the air back to 350ppm! This is a powerful bill. I support it strongly! We need to take BOLD action, as the latest predictions for Climate Change are Super Worrisome, but there is a short window to act and there's awesome solutions ready to go, which gives me some decent HOPE, as long as you are acting aggressively on this!!! A no vote on this is another nail in the coffin for our youth and I'm NOT OK WITH THAT, are you!?! Mahalo for your time!

Imua>>>

Steve parsons, Kauai Resident Wallua

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 9:41:09 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nako'olani Warrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In STRONG SUPPORT, mahalo!

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 9:56:53 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Mcknight	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

I urge you to support SCR44 and SR30 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 10:51:08 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Casey Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Just as SCR44, it is important to pass this bill that raises awareness of climate emergency and also leads the climate issues to meet solutions.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 11:02:55 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Dean	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

You see the pain and suffering of the climate crisis on TV every night. This is just the beginning. The disasters we're experiencing now are the result of carbon and methane we emitted decades ago. Now we're emitting many times the amount that we were back then. It's impossible to comprehend the pain that is coming, but you can do something right now, and maybe, we will survive. Imagine Hawaii with no beaches and no coral reefs. That's happening right now. Believe me, tourists won't come to Hawaii anymore. Not only do they not want to see muddy coastlines strewn with broken concrete, rebar and derilect houses, but they will be dealing with their own nightmares at home and won't have the ways or means to visit Hawaii. Make no mistake about it, this is an emergency. Our home is literally on fire, but no one is yelling FIRE! That's your job. That's what SCR30 is, it's you sounding the alarm, the alarm that everyone is too afraid to pull. If you were in a school, and it was being engulfed in flames, and you didn't sound the alarm, and children died, how would you feel about that? Children are dying, they're dying right now all over the world, because politicians are too afraid to sound the alarm.

The fastest way to stop burning fossil fuels is to mandate net metering. Once citizens realize they can make money by selling the excess energy they create with solar, we'll be off fossil fuels within 5 years, totally, in all sectors.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 11:23:45 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Herndon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard and AEN Committee,

I strongly urge you to support SR30, for the future of our Islands and our children.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's important we do our part to fight it. These resolutions move us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed.

-We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation, resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part and keep within our carbon budget.

Mahalo for hearing this matter. A big mahalo for accepting your kuleana at a time when your vote makes such a critical difference.

Sandra Herndon

Kapaa Kaua`i

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 2:40:05 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jeanne wheeler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We really need to get serious about climate change in our world - please pass this resolution!

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 2:48:10 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
donn viviani	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

I support SR30 I have expertise in both climate and water I am a retired USEPA scientist who now lives in Kailua. I was Director of EPA's Climate Policy Division, Chairman of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board's Toxics Committee and am current president of the Climate Protection and Restoration Initiative . Hawaii's welfare and existence is completely dependent on conditions in the Pacific Ocean. Greenhouse gases are acidifying, warming and deoxygenating the ocean that surrounds us. Hawaii will experience the effects of ocean changes much worse than any mainland state. If action is not taken: rising seas, the collapse of the marine food web, extreme weather events and other harmful effects are inevitable. Donn Viviani PhD Kailua

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 3:12:51 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harriet Burkholder	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill. Climate change is and will continue to affect island communities in increasingly harmful ways. We must PLAN and ACT now or know we will be forever REACTING to this existential threat.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 4:51:32 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Su	bmitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
F	lelen Cox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act **now** and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

-We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

-The science is clear. Our future and the future of our children and grandchildren are on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it! If your house were on fire, would you wait until 2045 to put it out? Hollow promises for the future won't douse the flames of today.

-As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. A the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

We can't wait or we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. Please support and pass SCR44 and SR30.

Mahalo,

Dr. Helen A Cox,

retired chancellor Kauai Community College,

chair, Kauai Climate Action Coalition

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 5:02:50 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lana Brodziak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Waikiki is flooding NOW! I've lived in Waikiki more than 10 years and I see the rising tides, the flooded streets and erdoing shoreline. There is no doubt that we are in a climate emergency situation that requires urgent action.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 6:31:35 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30 the climate emergency declaration resolutions.

I want to leave a stable and healthy planet for all of our future generations. I wish we had understood the impacts of our use of fossil fuels earlier. We do now and there is still time to successfully cool the planet and restore our environment but we need climate action and a just transition now and this resolution is a bold statement in support of action. Thank you to the members who submitted it and thank you to the committee.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support.

Virginia Tincher

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 7:01:31 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

To:

Agriculture and Environment Committee (AEN) at 1PM Friday 3/12/21

I strongly support SR30 the climate emergency declaration resolution.

Both counties of Maui and Hawaii have made climate emergency declarations. To foster coherent climate action the state of Hawaii must also make a declaration of climate emergency.

Respectfully submitted, and urge you unanimous support.

-Keith Neal

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2021 10:16:20 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Hennessy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SCR44 and SR30 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown. Please act courageous and help save our planet.

# **SR-30** Submitted on: 3/11/2021 3:46:46 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe that it is important to take this bill into account. although there are many other pressing issues, climate change is a silent killer that has the ability to be irreversible once ignored. now is the earliest we can ever start. start now, please, for the future of everyone.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 7:52:22 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peri Steffenhagen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30 the climate emergency declaration resolutions.

Scientific data shows that the warming of our planet is affecting the polar regions such that the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic is slowing down which has significant implications for severe weather along the Eastern seaboard.

In addition, there has been a shift in the Jet Stream which has allowed arctic air masses to move south leading to the kind of material cold-weather damage we've witnessed most recently in Texas.

Fires are expected to continue to be a threat throughout the Western part of the United States due to changing weather patterns, as well.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support.

Signed Peri Steffenhagen

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 8:54:27 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Micha'el Leventhal	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

Aloha, I support SCR44 and SR30 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

I urge you to please support SCR44 and SR30 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have taken some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part and keep within our carbon budget. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

We need to declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

Mahalo nui for doing the right thing for our community and our world!

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 8:59:09 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara DiGrazia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dearest Senators,

My name is Sara DiGrazia. I am a psychologist, mother, Kama'aina, and concerned Earth citizen. I implore you to support SCR44 and declare the state of emergency we are currently experiencing. Climate change trumps any problem we face, including the current pandemic. "A largely undocumented and growing human death toll from rising global temperatures will soon surpass the number of fatalities from all infectious diseases around the world if carbon emissions are not curbed" (Honolulu Advertiser "Heat Hazard" 8-9-2020). Statewide collaboration is essential and this sort of legislation can make that happen. Please be courageous and support this bill; every living organism on this planet is depending on us. Thank you. My children's testimony is below.

My name is Mesina DiGrazia-Roberts. I am a 13 year old youth climate activist and citizen of a warming world. Just in the few years that I have been alive, I have already experienced changes. I can not even begin to imagine the catastrophic damage which my future holds. Being only a mere citizen, I have not the power to pass this resolution. I am pleading with you to wake up. Someday when water is creeping up your door step and you are wearing an oxygen mask due to the fact that you can't breath without it, and your great grandchildren are sitting on your knee, they will ask you,

"Why did you not act when there still was time? You were a senator! You had the power to create change." How will you respond?

Thank you,

Mesina

My name is Amato. I want my future to not be in danger.

-Amato DiGrazia-Roberts (age 9)

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 9:03:56 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this resolution. It is time we act with responsibility for the health of these islands and Planet Earth.

Respectfully,

Taylor Roberts (born and raised O'ahu)

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 9:06:45 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to let you know of the strong support I and my family have for this resolution. Climate change is the most important threat to the planet, and to our state as well. it is foundation for all other issues we must address. Please pass this resolution so that we can take the bold and immediate actions necessary to help Hawai'i manage the many problems that loom in the future as the result of climate change. If there was ever an emergency, this is it, and we need to respond as soon as possible and with all the resources we can muster.

Mahalo for hearing my testimony,

Maria Walker

1728 Hulu Rd.

Kapa'a, HI 96746

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 9:48:38 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marisa Plemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I most strongly support SR30 because the evidence that climate change and global warming is here to stay is all around us. We are killing Planet Earth. For our children and all posterity we must try to do everything we can to stop the death and destruction of all life on the only planet in our universe that sustains life--Planet Earth. Thank you, Marisa Mia Plemer

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 9:50:36 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Garland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30, the climate emergency declaration resolutions.

We humans have only one planet we call home: Earth. Unfortunately, we have neglected and mistreated this home. Now tlme is running out. Our survival is at stake. Earth is our only home. Let's start acting like it. Our current and future fellow humans and animals are depending on us to ensure Earth continues to be habitable. Declaring a climate emergency is the first step.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support of these resolutions.

Mahalo,

Emily Garland

#### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 10:01:14 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Reilly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I am in strong support of SCR44 and SR30.

We are in a climate crisis (per Governor Ige) and extreme weather events are increasingly obvious and unavoidable.

Despite welcome progress in increased renewable sources for electricity generation, Hawaii is NOT on track to meet the Paris Agreement climate goals: 50% reduction of carbon emissions by 2030 and Net-Zero by 2050.

The key metric is the the amount of green house gases that are emitted each year in Hawaii.

The most recent (2016) data show that Hawaii emitted annually over 20 MMT CO2 eq (Million Metric Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent).

Please see chart on page ES-4 of the Executive Summary published Dec 2019:

Hawaii Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report for 2016: Final Report

As we thankfully begin to emerge from the Covid pandemic, we must acknowledge that we are facing a Climate Emergency and accept that this acknowledgment is a necessary step toward bold climate action. Fortunately we have the support of our US Congressional delegation and the welcome new climate-action priority of the Biden-Harris administration.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support of SCR44 and SR30.

Sincerely, Ron Reilly

"We asked for signs, the signs were sent" - Leonard Cohen "Anthem"

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 10:37:34 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roberta Baker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30 the climate emergency declaration resolutions.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support.

Roberta Baker

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 10:41:56 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivien Lee and Charlie Reppun	Individual	Comments	No

### Comments:

This bill is critical to deal with this issue. The public trust has been part of our constitution for some time and needs to be addressed, especially when we look at reopenning our economy. Constant growth does not work. We need to look at Steady State economies, or No Growth economies. Much has been written about both. As taro farmers in Waiahole valley, we pay attention to the weather and we experience the changes that are happening already. The public trust is the bottom line for everything, and 350.org Hawaii is on it. Thank you. I have attached a copy of an article from that latest Value of Hawaii book. An excellant collection of essays by people connected to all issues here.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 11:15:08 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihira, and Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

Please support SR30.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

Please support SR 30.

I urge you to support SCR44 and SR30 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future and future generations.

I am hopeful that our state will take bold actions to mitigate these negative climate impacts. We cannot afford to burn more fossil fuels since they increase the total greenhouse gas emissions in various environmental systems. At a certain point, the planet will get so warm that the various feedback loops will warm the planet at an even faster, unpresidented rate. We have the science, technology and resources to stop this from happening. We simply need to exercise our collective political will to save our planet, our only home in the universe.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 11:22:12 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
P Noel Bobilin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I strongly support SCR44 and SR30 the climate emergency declaration resolutions.

I have been aware of the climate crisis for over 40 years and so little has been done and now the climate is becoming more unpredictable and dangerous. Just look what happend with the rains in Haleiwa and Maui! It will only get worse. Our government as well as others must act...now.

I respectfully urge your unanimous support.

Signed P. Noel Bobilin

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 11:52:48 AM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Vierra	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Addressing Climate Change should be Hawai'i's priority. Our planet needs us to change. We need us to change if the human race wants a future. Please support SR30.

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 12:49:32 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear AEN Chair Gabbard, AEN Vice Chair Nishihara and AEN Committee members,

Every kama'aina and everyone who loves Hawaii should be concerned about Hawaii's response to the worldwide climate emergency we are now experiencing. Slowly, but incessantly, we are watching our climate and our natural world change before our very eyes: more rain bombs and flooding; insidious sea level rise and beach erosion; threats of more and stronger tropical storms; erosion runoff and coral bleaching; higher summer temperatures threatening native flora and fauna as well as declining agricultural production. It's not a world we want to leave to our keiki.

Immediate, bold action—similar to what President Biden is invoking for the COVID-19 pandemic—is needed by the state of Hawaii and all its departments working together for a successful outcome to the climate emergency. Resolution SR30 clearly lays out the scope and scale of the emergency (backed up by science) and the short time frame remaining for action (9 years) if we expect to resolve it.

This is war—that's how we should treat it. Every decision the state of Hawaii makes going forward must consider the climate consequences for our State and for the world.

We all wish there were no climate emergency, but that is not the case. Whether we like it or not, it is our responsibility to do our utmost to restore a safe climate.

Please pass SR30 which sets out the guiding principles for climate action by the state of Hawaii. Only by meeting this great existential challenge can we say we did our utmost to leave a livable planet for all subsequent generations.

Thank you for listening and for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas - Aiea, Hawaii

Ronald Yasuda - Aiea, Hawaii

Paul Zweng - Kailua, Hawaii

### <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 12:58:22 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zoe Whitney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

I, as a Bachelor in Environmental Science educated by UH Hilo, strongly support SCR44 and SR30, the climate emergency declaration resolutions. The threat of climate emergency is severe. If our statewide actions do not recognize this, we endanger ourselves further. The legislature must set the tone of our future as a state by recognizing that climate change has begun and will become exponentially worse if not treated as the public health and safety emergency it is. The transition to a decarbonized economy, the redirection of support from high-climate-impact projects to low-climateimpact projects, and the mechanisms for accountability towards swift adoption of climate emergency mitigation and adaption measures outlined in these resolutions are both specific and broad enough to address the situation at hand. I respectfully urge your unanimous support.

Signed,

Zoe Whitney

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 1:22:29 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annette Kaohelaulii	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

I have been advocating for legislation to address climate change since 1972, I am now 81 and I would like to see something accomplished before I die. I am 81 so do not have a lot of ttime. Please accomplish something before I can't do this any longer.

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 2:30:02 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Legislators please see my testimony on SCR44. This is essential to mitigation of the climate crisis. Do not delay, act boldly to protect our planet.

Mahalo nui

Diane Ware 99-7815 Kapoha Volcano 96785

## <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 3:07:35 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Gray	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

We know we need to go carbon free by 2035 to survive, so yes we have an emmergency, and we need to actt accordingly. We are all seeing the climate changing. Floods, intense storms, sea level rise, pandemic, fires and drought. We have had all of this right here, as well as many more effects such as reef bleaching from warming ocean, and more hurricanes. We simply must not go another year without taking big actions. Please do something. Mahalo, Laura Gray R.N.

# <u>SR-30</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2021 7:37:56 PM Testimony for AEN on 3/12/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tawn Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are told over and over by the scientists that we are in a climate crisis - a climate emergency. It is long past time that the governmental bodies need to attend to this as the emergency that it is. Please resolve your full commitment toward addressing this existential threat. Now!!!

Tawn Keeny MD