



To: The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023, 9:30am

In strong support of HR122/HCR117

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in **strong support of HR122/HCR117** which urges the counties to include townhomes in the residential permitting process for the installation of solar panels.

With the highest electrical rates in the country and the impacts of climate change already being felt, we need to move forward on smart solutions that will help to stimulate our economy and make us more resilient. The current system for processing permits is untenable and a detriment to Hawaii achieving our clean energy goals. In fact, many Oahu solar companies have stopped taking on townhouse clients due to the long wait for building permit approval from the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting.

Rooftop solar power reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and as such, is a key tool in our fight against the climate crisis. We must remove the unnecessary roadblocks and burdens to installing solar systems so that all may access the benefits from solar energy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important resolution.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

HR-122

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 2:31:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurel brier	Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Townhouses are residents as well and Solar energy should be accessible to all as it is for the benefit of all - environmentally and economically.