



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1839
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

REPRESENTATIVE LINDA ICHIYAMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

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

Hearing Date: 2/6/2024

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's
2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and
3 personnel priorities.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure that seeks to fund long-term air
5 and water monitoring in areas impacted by the 2023 Maui wildfires. The type and amount of
6 long-term monitoring, which is generally assumed to be post-cleanup/disposal, has not been
7 determined and we offer the following for discussion.

8 In Kula, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed their debris removal
9 work and the Department will be removing most of the air quality monitors in this area.
10 PurpleAir sensors that continuously test for fine particulate matter and are used as an indicator of
11 the levels of other pollutants of concern that attach to ash and dust, will remain at upcountry
12 schools. These same types of sensors have been placed around the temporary disposal site in
13 Olowalu, which is not mentioned in the bill.

14 Currently, in the area of the Lahaina cleanup, the Department operates close to
15 50 PurpleAir sensors and 6 Environmental Beta Attenuation Mass monitors (E-BAMs), the latter
16 being near regulatory instruments and providing increased accuracy in particulate monitoring. In
17 addition, 4 sampling stations, funded through the Department/Hawaii Emergency Management
18 Agency, test for asbestos and heavy metals. It is our understanding that the USACE debris
19 removal work is anticipated to last for approximately 1 year.

20 The need for long-term monitoring (beyond a year), may be dependent on the debris
21 removal extending beyond the anticipated year and on evaluation of the data taken during the

1 cleanup and disposal activities. In Kula, the levels for asbestos were non-detect, the metal levels
2 were low and all below the levels where impacts to human health are expected, and the
3 particulates were elevated at times, but mainly attributed to activities such as wood chipping of
4 fallen trees.

5 If additional monitoring is determined to be beneficial at any of the locations, the Department
6 already has a sizeable quantity of PurpleAir sensors. However, the Department does not have
7 additional E-BAMs to deploy. Each unit costs approximately \$20,000, not including the costs
8 for operation and maintenance. If additional air sampling is determined to be beneficial,
9 additional funding would be needed, as the 4 Lahaina sampling stations were contracted for
10 1 year of operation at over \$4 million.

11 The bill also proposes to fund an Air Quality Electronics Technician (AQET) I for the State
12 fiscal year. We request that the AQET position be changed to an Environmental Health
13 Specialist (EHS) and that the position be made permanent. An EHS can assist with duties to set
14 up and maintain air quality monitoring equipment, which is the primary responsibility of an
15 AQET, but can also perform other tasks such as review and validate data and investigate and
16 assess any spikes or unusual occurrences in the air quality being monitored.

17 Indications are that recent events such as wildfires, including those that occurred in Lahaina,
18 Kula, Olinda, and Mililani, will increase as climate change impacts weather patterns and adds to
19 the demand on Department monitoring and response resources. Moreover, other natural events,
20 including volcanic eruptions, can also occur, requiring additional air monitoring to assess air
21 quality and protect public health. The United States Geological Survey reports that Kilauea has
22 experienced an increase in seismic activity and that an eruption could occur with little warning
23 which would further increase the workload on current Department staff. During unpredicted
24 events such as these, staff are taken away from their regular duties and the program must catch
25 up later or risk falling into noncompliance with federal regulations.

26 The Department also seeks clarification on the long term monitoring for water quality. Is it
27 the intent of the Legislators for water quality monitoring to include drinking and near shore
28 water?

29 **Offered Amendments:** None

30 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Testimony of **Lahaina Strong**
Before the House Committees on
Water & Land and Energy & Environmental Protection

In Consideration of House Bill No. 1839
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

We are writing on behalf of Lahaina Strong, an organization that was initially formed in 2018 following the Hurricane Lane fire in Lahaina and re-energized last year after the devastating Lahaina fires on August 8. Our organization is the largest grassroots, Lahaina-based community organization, with over 20,000 supporters, engaged in providing support and assistance to the victims of these disasters.

Lahaina Strong stands in support of HB1839, a bill that appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

Both Lahaina and Kula, Maui suffered immense environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and the bill's focus on ongoing assessment aligns with the critical need to address the lingering repercussions on our community's well-being.

We commend the diligent efforts of the House of Representatives' Environmental Remediation Working Group in thoroughly understanding the nuanced challenges faced by Maui after the fires. Their commitment to deriving comprehensive recommendations is a testament to their dedication to the welfare of our communities.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring of air and water quality is not just a financial allocation but a recognition of the enduring responsibility to safeguard the

health and safety of our residents. The wildfires have left lasting impacts on our environment, and a continued commitment to monitoring ensures that we can address emerging concerns and implement proactive measures for the well-being of our community members.

Moreover, we appreciate the bill's support for research efforts aimed at better understanding the environmental concerns linked to urban fires. This forward-thinking approach aligns with Lahaina Strong's mission of fostering a resilient and sustainable future for Lahaina. By investing in research, we can pave the way for informed decision-making and targeted interventions that address the unique challenges posed by post-wildfire environmental dynamics.

In conclusion, Lahaina Strong stands in full support of House Bill 1839 and its appropriations for vital long-term monitoring and research initiatives. We thank the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their comprehensive approach, and we believe that this bill, if passed, will contribute significantly to the ongoing recovery and resilience of Lahaina.

Mahalo for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Courtney Lazo, Jordan Ruidas & Pa'ele Kiakona

Lahaina Strong

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 8:54:49 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Green Party Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chari Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vic Chair Cochran, and the honorable member of the committees,

The Green Party of Hawai'i would like to add our support for HB1839.

The wildfires on Maui of 2023 were a wake-up call to all of Hawai'i and HB1839 among other bills is an important tool to understand how to mitigate and avoid future disasters of this magnitude. Both Lahaina and Kula need long-term monitoring and assessment to address the lingering repercussions.

The Environmental Remediation Working Group's dedication to Maui's challenges and their recommendations for long-term resident's health and safety are vital to understanding how to avoid such disasters in the future.

The Green Party of Hawai'i supports putting the residents which includes humans, flora and fauna, coral, and ocean safety and health above tourism, resorts, and golf courses in the research for rebuilding our communities for the people of Hawai'i.

Yes on HB1839

Mahalo for your consideration on this important matter,

Susan RobertsEmery

Co chair GPH



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND and
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 325
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 AT 9:05 A.M.**

To The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Water & Land
To The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Elle Cochran, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

SUPPORT HB1839 RELATING TO THE GENERATION OF WILDFIRE SUSCEPTIBILITY MAPS FOR HAWAII

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS HB1839** which appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

The Chamber notes that based on the findings and recommendations of the House of Representatives' environmental remediation working group, the wildfires that engulfed urban areas on Maui in 2023 contained more toxic chemicals than wildfires that simply consume wood and natural materials. Materials burned in urban fires can include household appliances, commercial appliances, vehicles, and construction materials, which can leave behind a variety of chemicals, contaminants, and debris that can persist in the ecosystem.

We agree that conducting air and water quality testing and contaminant testing is necessary to monitor the short- and long-term risks of the Maui wildfires to the ecosystem, community, and environment.

For these reasons the Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS HB1839** and respectfully request it be passed to the next committee.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



TESTIMONY FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

February 6, 2024

HB1839, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **supports** HB 1839, relating to the environment. Pursuant to the “Public Safety and Disaster and Emergency Preparedness” section of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i platform, the party supports “policy that protects the people of Hawai'i and their property against natural and man-made disasters,” and “believes that climate change is real, affirms human activity as its primary cause and main driver, and supports emergency preparedness and planning efforts to mitigate its impacts.”

Last year, we witnessed the impact of the climate emergency on our shores. On August 8, 2023, wildfires swept across Maui and killed at least 100 people, making it one of the nation's deadliest natural disasters. The spread of the fires has been attributed to climate change conditions, such as unusually dry landscapes and the confluence of a strong high-pressure system to the north and Hurricane Dora to the south.

The wildfires destroyed over 2,200 structures, including numerous residential buildings, historic landmarks, commercial buildings, vehicles and

school facilities. As a result, this fire left behind high levels of dangerous toxicity, unlike wildfires that are limited to wood and natural materials.

It is our obligation to ensure a just recovery for Maui. That also entails allocating funding for long term monitoring of air and water quality in the communities impacted by the Maui wildfires. We need to understand how safe the affected areas are, to avoid causing further harm to impacted communities. This can be accomplished in part by long term monitoring of air and water quality.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kris Coffield

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee

(808) 679-7454

kriscoffield@gmail.com

Abby Simmons

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee

(808) 352-6818

abbyalana808@gmail.com

HB-1839

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 6:49:08 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 10:34:28 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 11:31:45 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanna Nakihei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community. As a resident that lives in one of the last standing neighborhoods in Lahaina and have been home since 8/15/23, we need our legislators to care about us. imagine if you were living in this situation, what would you want for your family?

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Joanna Nakihei

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 7:34:27 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keila Paahana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being. Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations. The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community. In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

-Keila Paahana

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 8:49:33 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bonnie Marsh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support air and water quality control by the board of health for all communities on Maui affected by the august 2023 fires.

mahalo nui,

Dr Bonnie Marsh

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 9:23:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

please approve

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 9:23:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justice Villaren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Justice Villaren

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 10:57:52 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 11:16:56 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Delyon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely, Elizabeth DeLyon

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 2:28:38 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isis Usborne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Isis Usborne

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 3:12:19 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Winternitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Winternitz

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 3:29:57 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Vukelich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Maria Vukelich

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 3:41:38 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorena Martinez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,
Lorena Martinez
Resident of West Maui

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 4:00:19 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ANDREW ISODA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Andrew Isoda
Lahaina, Mau'i

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 4:01:12 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LISA ISODA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Lisa Isoda
Lahaina, Maui

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 4:12:41 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mahealani Medeiros-Criste	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Mahalo,

Mahealani Medeiros Criste

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 4:13:20 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lawrence Toutant-Acosta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Lawrence Toutant-Acosta, and I am a resident of Hawaii and former resident of the Lahaina community. I am an avid water enthusiast and often surf and enjoy the West Maui coasts. I have been concerned in the lack of available research and information/data regarding water quality as provided by the states after the wildfires. There is the concern of runoff and drainage into the ocean that affects the ocean life, reef, and human beings. The state promptly quarantined areas due to hazardous materials, however the water quality is not being monitored or reported upon publicly. HB 1839 appears to be a significant step in the right direction of providing locals, who culturally, spiritually, recreationally, and vocationally benefit from clean water access. Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Lawrence Toutant-Acosta

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 5:07:45 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Velasquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Catherine Velasquez

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 7:59:58 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I stand in support of this bill and mahalo the authors and introducers of this bill. As stated in the bill, urban fires are much more toxic than typical wildfires, as household materials and appliances are often destroyed and part of the debris.

As we all know, Maui is a very windy island, and with the amount of urban area and property that was destroyed by the wildfire, there likely was a large amount toxic chemicals in the area which could have migrated very far distances via wind or rain since the wildfire occurred over 6 months ago. There is a need for toxic chemical monitoring for the surrounding areas as well due to the possibility of migration during this period.

While there is a pretty elaborate clean up effort in the devastated areas which have begun, the possibility of toxic chemicals remaining in the area, and nearby areas, is very possible. The people of Lahiana and the nearby areas deserve to know if there are toxic chemicals that they are being exposed to, and if they are being transported by air or water.

Thus my only suggestion with this bill would be for section 2, subsections 2-3 to include the surrounding areas of Kula and Lahaina for monitoring, not just the impacted areas.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 8:39:11 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimberly D. Lepold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

PLEASE, DO THE RIGHT THING!

Mahalo

Sincerely,
Kimberly Lepold

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/3/2024 9:17:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvonne Alvarado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Yvonne Alvarado Supports Bill HB1839

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 1:13:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandra Snedikor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Sandra Snedikor

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 8:19:38 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kazuo Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha I'm a born and raised kanaka of Napili in support of HB1839

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 8:49:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Lee Nava	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Cathy Lee Nava

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:19:03 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devon Steck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Devon Steck

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:21:03 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl burghardt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill HB 1839 which appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

This is an important bill which we need for Maui and all of our islands. My question would be what does "long-term" mean in legislature lingo? This should be a continued effort and funded.

Again, I SUPPORT this bill.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:25:03 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dee Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires are both crucial for our community's well-being.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:02:49 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anna Barbeau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

How our environment is protected NOW affects what we leave for the next generation. Knowingly and willingly having actions which will be extremely adverse to our oceans and clean mountain water is beyond cruel. The mentality of doing harm now bcs those currently in offices of power who will no longer be in office when their negative actions are felt, cannot be allowed. Truth and blaring facts need be honored. Mahalo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 11:38:05 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fund DOH for long term monitoring of air/water qualities in communities impacted by wildfires.

Support for research efforts for better understanding of environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 12:05:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of this legislation. Both Lahaina and Kula suffered severe environmental impacts and in the case of Lahaina the scale of devastation is very rare that we still do not know what the long term health effects can be. This type of monitoring is important to learn how to safely respond and address this type of situation should it ever happen again anywhere throughout the world.

The proposed funding for long term monitoring is a recognition of our responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety, By supporting research efforts, we are not just burying our heads in the sand but rather taking a forward-thinking approach to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community as well .

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB 1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Mahalo for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Tamara

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 12:14:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandy Takiguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Brandy Takiguchi

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 12:23:46 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stefania Xytakis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and the honorable members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I strongly support SB2381, a measure addressing crucial campaign finance issues in Hawaii. As a Maui community member, this bill's establishment of public financing for all candidates is essential for promoting transparency and ensuring equitable representation.

In the aftermath of recent wildfires, SB2381's community-driven approach is vital for creating a political environment that is responsive and representative. I urge the committee to consider the long-term benefits of this bill in fostering fairness and accountability in our state's political process.

Mahalo for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Stefania Xytakis

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 1:51:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Patton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

For these reasons I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 1:56:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

important the air and water are safe for the survivors - so they can return to their property with assurances of safety ...

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 2:05:46 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
louise drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

safety of air and water is paramount in the survivors returning to their ‘āina

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my **strong support for HB1839**. Recognizing the necessity of conducting air and water quality testing, as well as contaminant testing, to monitor short- and long-term risks to the ecosystem, community and environment is a crucial step forward.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires. Allocating resources to address immediate risks and also to ensure a comprehensive understanding of potential long-term impacts on human health and the ecosystem is vital at this point for our community.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community. In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives.

Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Katie Austin

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 5:13:07 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pahnelopi mckenzie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 5:18:17 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kiley Adolpho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 6:27:35 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

I feel it is vitally important as a community going forward to take of the people and the aina. One way this can be done is to continue monitoring for the health of both and for the future of Maui.

Sincerely,

Ashley Moody

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 7:20:04 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 7:24:01 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Clapper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is important for the health of all on Maui to be aware of the water and air quality regularly, especially after the fires which caused much toxicity.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 7:41:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline Hudson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. It is critical for our community's immediate health as well as long-term well-being to monitor air and water quality in the aftermath of the August 8th fires on Maui in Lahaina and Kula.

This bill will also provide for research and ongoing assessment that can make a powerful difference in protecting the individual lives of residents and visitors as well as the unique and precious environment of Maui.

Thank you for your commitment to the health, safety, and future of our people and natural environment.

Sincerely, Jacqueline Hudson

6 Kiohuohu Lane Unit 8

Lahaina, HI 96761

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:08:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,
Stacey Alapai

Makawao, HI 96768

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:28:02 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dina Edmisson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Dina Edmisson

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:42:31 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kailani Amine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,
Kailani Amine

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 9:50:19 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Carter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Paul Carter

201 River Rd, Waihe'e, Maui

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 10:10:03 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nameaaea Hoshino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai Kakou

My name Nameaaea Hoshino. I support HB 1839. Mahalo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 10:10:59 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gretchen Losano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HB 1839. In addition to understanding the environmental hazards that we may be facing, we absolutely need to understand what our long term health affects may be as a result of the Maui wildfires. In order to understand the potential affects, we need to have adequate air and water quality monitoring in place to track the toxins that may be present. This should be a standard precautionary measure taken in every town after a natural disaster, and we have the ability to set the standard for responsible governmental response that other communities can learn from.

Mahalo,

Gretchen Losano

Lahaina, Maui

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 10:13:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kapulei Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I am writing in support of HB1839 that would provide funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui fires. The health and wellbeing of our people should be the top priority.

Mahalo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:11:13 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Timothy Wiley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

Aloha, My name is Timothy Wiley, and I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Timothy Wiley

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:47:42 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
SusanEgdamin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee,

I strongly support HB1839. History has shown the type of materials that were reduced to ash in the Kula and Lahaina fires are toxic and can cause serious health conditions, even death for people exposed. We know many of the people that lost their homes have no other land to rebuild. Many will rebuild on these sights. These are our keiki, our kupuna , our Ohana.

Please help keep them safe by monitoring the air quality often. It's better they have the knowledge, than not know at all.

I support HB1839.

Mahalo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 5:57:46 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,
Tia Lee Klug-Wessell

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:30:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tarsis Rich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:44:54 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ekini Lindsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

IN SUPPORT FOR HB1839!!!

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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

February 3, 2024

TO: The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Water & Land
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 1839, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this measure, which would appropriate funds for monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. It advances the health and safety objective of protecting Maui County residents from health issues caused by air and water degradation from the 2023 wildfires and recovery efforts.
2. The House Environmental Remediation Working Group recommended funding and support to further ongoing monitoring, sampling, and testing activities in West Maui.
3. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine urge further research into the chemistry of urban wildfires and the harmful long-term health impacts to people in urban areas.
4. The World Health Organization concluded that when wildfires impact urban areas, the materials burned contain more toxic chemicals than from wildfires that consume wood and other natural material.

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

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 7:56:27 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danette Trujillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:43:24 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Riley Bond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran, and the esteemed members of the committees,

As a mother deeply invested in the well-being of our community, I write to express my heartfelt support for HB1839. The allocation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for post-wildfire environmental research, is not just important but vital for the safety and health of our families.

The wildfires that swept through Lahaina and Kula on Maui last year had profound effects on our environment. As a concerned mother, I understand the ongoing assessment is critical to addressing the lasting repercussions these events have had on our community.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring speaks to our shared responsibility to safeguard the health and well-being of our children and families. By endorsing research initiatives, HB1839 takes a forward-thinking approach, aiming to comprehend environmental concerns tied to urban fires and ensuring a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for crucial monitoring and research initiatives.

Sincerely,

Riley Bond

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:46:05 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nani Dapitan-Haake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Poepoe and committee members:

I support HB1839, which provides funding to the DOH for ongoing monitoring of air and water quality and communities affected by the Maui wildfires. It also supports research efforts to enhance our understanding of the environmental issues associated with urban fires.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 8:52:56 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louise Palmer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support this bill

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:27:35 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my **strong support for HB1839**. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,
Nalani

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:30:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sonni Schwartzbach	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

With ALoha,

SONni Schwartzbach

Hilo, HI 96720

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:35:11 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rochelle Sombelon-McEwen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran, and the honorable members of the committees

I am to express my strong support for HB1839. The bills appropriations of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our communities well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessments is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely

Rochelle Sombelon-McEwen

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:40:18 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kay Aina	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee members,

The intent of this measure is commendable and important, however, the measure should not be used as a vehicle to exceed the State's budget and/or raise taxes on an already over-taxed citizenry. Please defer or amend the bill to obtain the appropriate funds from existing State programs. Thank you.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:47:46 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of this bill.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:50:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sierra Dew	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Sierra Dew

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:13:20 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
brandi corpuz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB1839 for air and water quality monitoring for Kula and Lahaina through long term funding for DOH. We must monitor these areas and surrounding areas such as Kula Kai for years to come in order to fully understand their affects on our environment and communities. Please vote yes to help to protect us all.

Sincerely, Brandi Corpuz

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 12:23:52 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 2:06:30 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carlos Lamas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Carlos Lamas, a resident of Lahaina. I strongly support HB1839, recognizing its critical importance in addressing the aftermath of the devastating wildfires that struck our community in 2023. These fires, unlike typical wildfires, consumed not only natural materials but also urban elements, releasing a myriad of toxic chemicals into our environment. This bill's focus on long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with supporting research to understand the environmental impacts of urban fires, is vital for our recovery and future safety. The allocation of funds will enable us to better assess and mitigate the health risks posed by such disasters, ensuring that Lahaina can heal and rebuild more resiliently. This act represents a significant step forward in our commitment to environmental stewardship and public health, and I urge its passage for the well-being of our beloved island and its residents.

Mahalo for reading my testimony in support of HB1839.

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 3:54:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zane Kekoa Schweitzer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB1839. Water and air quality monitoring is vital moving forward for our community after the Dsvistating wildfire and industrial fires we experienced in Lahaina.

mahalo,

Zane

Mahalo,

Zane

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 4:52:56 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelei Tancayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1839. I am in strong support of funding going to the DOH for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for our communities impacted by the Maui wildfires.

Mahalo,

Michelei Tancayo

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 6:53:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lindsey A Drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Drayer

Support for HB1839

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my **strong support for HB1839**. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

Both Lahaina and Kula on Maui faced significant environmental impacts from last year's wildfires, and ongoing assessment is vital to addressing lingering repercussions. I commend the Environmental Remediation Working Group for their thorough understanding of Maui's challenges and their dedication to comprehensive recommendations.

The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community. In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Pahia
Maui, Hawaii

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 10:29:14 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamea Drayer-Hoopii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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The proposed funding for long-term monitoring is a recognition of our enduring responsibility to safeguard residents' health and safety. By supporting research efforts, the bill takes a forward-thinking approach to better understand environmental concerns linked to urban fires, contributing to a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB1839 and its appropriations for vital monitoring and research initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

Kamea Drayer-Hoopii

HB-1839

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 11:46:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/6/2024 9:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
susan walczak-pol	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Ichiyama, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Poepoe, Vice Chair Cochran and the honorable members of the committees,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1839. The bill's appropriation of funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality, along with support for research efforts related to environmental concerns post-wildfires, is crucial for our community's well-being.

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