

LATE TESTIMONY



HAWAII CHAPTER
U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Issac W. Choy, Vice Chair
Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

United States Green Building Council Hawaii Chapter

March 21, 2011
(Testimony is 1 page long)

Testimony in Support of SB283, Relating to Sustainability; State Planning

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy, and Members of the Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business; Chair Hanohano, and Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee of Hawaiian Affairs:

The United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) mission is to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life.

The USGBC Hawaii Chapter supports SB283, Incorporate the definitions, guiding principles, and goals of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability task force report into the Hawaii State Planning Act, codified as chapter 226.

1. The ahupua`a land division system, recognized the diverse ecosystem and amazing environment Hawaii offers. History shows that this system provided a balance between social, economic, community, and environmental priorities. Similar principles, like smart growth and LEED ND (New Development), supported in the Hawaii 2050 Plan, should be reflected in current planning as stated in SB283.
2. Integrating sustainable principles and metrics into long term planning initiatives have provided municipalities throughout the nation a framework to implement and develop innovative and feasible solutions. The City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability created a public-private partnership in 2006, Solarize Portland, to help homeowners overcome financial and logistical hurdles of going solar. Today, the program has tripled its initial goals and has added 350 kilowatts of new PV capacity to Portland, estimating to produce 359,000 kWh of electricity per year.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB283.

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