DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of SENATE BILL 2672 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Senate Bill 2672 proposes to build on the statewide actions of the Aloha+ Challenge, the Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, and other initiatives inspired by the Malama Honua Worldwide Voyage and Malama Hawai'i and codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eleven, sustainable cities and communities. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department notes that part of increasing livability and resilience in built environments, protecting Hawaii's cultural and natural heritage, and mitigating economic losses from disaster includes the preservation, maintenance, and expansion of green infrastructure, including our urban forests and trees. Urban forests can play a significant role in building healthier communities and people, cooling heat islands in cities, improving sales in business districts, and protecting communities from the impacts from storm events and natural disasters through stormwater mitigation and absorption.

The Department defers to the Office of Environmental Quality Control and the Environmental Council regarding the suitability of Chapter 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as the implementing statute for these Sustainable Development Goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E. DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEY ANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
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Testimony of **SCOTT GLENN, Director**

before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of **SENATE BILL 2672 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) administers Chapter 343, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS). The purpose of the EIS law is to "establish a system of environmental review which ensures that environmental concerns are given appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic and technical considerations" (HRS § 343-1). Additionally, the OEQC serves "the Governor in an advisory capacity on all matters relating to environmental quality control," as directed in HRS § 341-3.

Senate Bill 2672 proposes to codify sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eleven, sustainable cities and communities, into HRS Chapter 344, State Environmental Policy.

Chapter 344, HRS, is an integral statute to the environmental review process. Adding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) may have unintended effects on the EIS process.

Because the SDGs encompass more than environmental policy and are intended to affect policymaking and planning, perhaps HRS Chapter 226, the Hawai'i State Planning Act, could be a potential statute for housing the SDGs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



PANKAJ BHANOT DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

January 30, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: SB 2672 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Hearing: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 2:45 p.m.

Conference Room 224, State Capitol

<u>DEPARTMENT'S POSITION</u>: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the proposed bill, as it aligns with the department's transformation efforts and mission to encourage self-sufficiency and support the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in Hawai'i.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The purpose of the bill is to codify sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eleven, sustainable cities and communities.

DHS has a large stake in promoting sustainable cities and communities. DHS provides benefits and services to one in four Hawaii residents, or nearly 360,000 individuals. The state's Medicaid program, QUEST Integration, provides medical insurance coverage for nearly one-half of Hawaii's children. We manage an annual budget of nearly \$3.5 billion to provide benefits and services relating to housing, education, employment, health care, safety, child care, and food security.

DHS is a member of the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented

Development (TOD Council), which is the body responsible for coordinating State agency

TOD planning and facilitating collaboration between the State and the counties on smart

growth and TOD initiatives. As a member of the TOD Council, DHS advocates for equitable

development, and was a key player in the development and inclusion of equitable development principles in the 2017 State of Hawaii Strategic Plan for TOD.

Equitable development promotes and supports community well-being and active and healthy lifestyles. It refers to a range of approaches for creating healthy, vibrant, and sustainable communities where residents of all incomes, races, and ethnicities have access to the opportunities, services, and amenities they need to thrive. A key component to a thriving community lies at the intersection of housing and transportation.

Securing and maintaining affordable housing creates tremendous opportunities for individuals and families to succeed, yet it is a substantial challenge for Hawaii's low-income residents, who face one of the highest housing costs in the country. According to the City and County of Honolulu, there is an extreme affordable housing need for 84 percent of the population. Of the affordable housing needs, over 75 percent of total projected demand on Oahu is for households earning less than 80 percent of the area median income (which in 2017, was \$83,680 for a family of four) and is largely for multi-family rental units. DHS has calculated that the primary population that DHS serves has income below 30 percent of area median income; any discussion of affordable housing must incorporate the needs of Hawaii's low-income residents.

Access to public transportation is indispensable for many low-income individuals and families. While housing costs are typically the largest expenditure for households, transportation costs tend to be the second-largest expenditure. Preserving and developing housing, jobs, and services in transit-rich locations allows families to reduce their transportation costs, allowing the savings to go toward education, health care, healthy food, or other means to improve well-being.

Additionally, in 2016, DHS initiated its 'Ohana Nui effort by adopting a multigenerational approach to transform the way services are provided to individuals and families to improve outcomes and well-being. By providing programs and services that maintain a high level of service integration, quality, and intensity across multiple generations, DHS intends to reduce intergenerational poverty in the State, and the human and financial costs associated with poverty.

As part of the DHS mission to transform the way we deliver benefits and services, and as part of the Governor's package, DHS proposed HB2366/SB2793 which requires DHS to use an integrated and multigenerational approach to delivering human services to reduce the incidence of intergenerational poverty and dependence on public benefits.

The proposed SB 2672 furthers the goals of DHS as we transform to an integrated service delivery system with a focus on supporting every recipient's human potential, improving access to affordable housing and transportation, reducing incidences of intergenerational poverty, and improving the community's overall health and well-being.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

JANUARY 31, 2018 2:45 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 224

SENATE BILL NO. 2672 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2672. This bill codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nation's Global Goal eleven, sustainable cities and communities. The Department supports this bill.

This bill provides for positive economic, social, and environmental links between urban and rural areas by strengthening development planning in line with the goals of the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative, Aloha+ Challenge, and the World Conservation Congress Hawaii Commitments of 2016. The bill also states to substantially increase the number of cities and towns adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans toward inclusion, resources efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and developing and implementing holistic disaster risk management at all levels. The Department support these efforts as it relates to a sustainable future for Hawaii's agricultural industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
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Statement of LEO R. ASUNCION

Director, Office of Planning before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of SB 2672
RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 2672 Relating to Sustainable Development Goals. SB 2672 seeks to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 344, the State's Environmental Policy, to codify one of the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, a group of 17 goals to transform our world; SB 2672 specifically seeks to codify UN Sustainable Development Goal, global goal 11, to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030.

The Office of Planning appreciates the adoption of global goal 11 to: ensure safe and affordable housing; provide sustainable public transportation systems; increase livability and resilience in the built environment; strengthen efforts to protect Hawaii's cultural and natural heritage; protect people from death, economic losses, especially those in vulnerable situations caused by disasters; reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities; provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible green and public spaces; support positive economic, social, and environmental links between urban and rural areas by strengthening development planning; and substantially increasing the number of cities and towns adopting and

implementing integrated policies and plans toward inclusion, resource efficiency, and climate change mitigation and adaptation throughout the State of Hawaii by 2030.

The Office of Planning recommends codifying this proposal in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 226, the Hawaii State Plan, to be consistent with HRS § 226-108, the State's sustainability priority guidelines and principles of the Hawaii State Plan. The Office of Planning also recommends adding the goals of the State of Hawaii's 2050 Sustainability Plan into SB 2672.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Environmental Caucus

of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

January 29, 2018

To Committee on Water and Land Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Re: SB 2672 Relating to Sustainable Development – Cities and Communities

Hearing: Wednesday, January 31, 2018, 2:45 p.m. Room 224

Position: SUPPORT

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii supports SB 2672 to strengthen public institutions around the critical work of creating sustainable cities and communities. We thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

This bill outlines a powerful and positive direction for public work for the public good that is mindful of the current economic, social and environmental challenges we currently face. This bill is grounded in an understanding of the importance of providing equal access to safe, affordable, livable and sustainable housing and transportation, the intentional cultivation of green and public spaces, linking spirituality, religion, culture, and conservation to cultivate a culture of conservation, and protecting the poor and most vulnerable.

Adopting this proposed language, and embedding it in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 344, will help fulfill the mandate that state government increase the number of cities and towns in Hawaii that adopt and implement integrated policies and plans toward inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and resilience to disasters. But deeds must be implemented to follow these noble goals.

Alan B. Burdick, Chair Environmental Caucus Burdick808@gmail.com/ 486-1018

<u>SB-2672</u> Submitted on: 1/28/2018 10:50:38 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu	Support	No

Comments:



AIRPORT CONCESSIONAIRES COMMITTEE

Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair Committee on Water and Land Hawaii State Senate Hawaii State Capitol

January 31, 2018, 2:45pm, Room 224

Re: S.B. 2672 – Relating to Sustainable Development Goals

Dear Chair Rhoads and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Peter Fithian and I am the Legislative Chair for the Airports Concessionaires Committee whose membership consists of the major concession operators at Hawaii's public airports. Airport concessions presently have historically contributed more than half of the operating revenues for Hawaii's airport system which as you know is special funded.

Our Committee supports this bill.

On behalf of our employees and families and friends, we commend you for your leadership in setting "sustainable cities and communities" goals for our State.

While the problems of today are certainly compelling, you recognize the importance of not only the present but planning now for the future well-being of all of us who live in Hawaii by your actions in supporting this legislation.

We must plan now and start to take steps to preserve our future of our family, friends and our Hawaii that is so special to all of us and to so many around the world.

Mahalo for your vision and leadership.

<u>SB-2672</u> Submitted on: 1/26/2018 12:18:47 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon		Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose any idea to give United Nations more money or influence. We don't need them.

<u>SB-</u>2672

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 7:51:49 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE

OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

THE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

2:45 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224

RE: **Testimony in Support** of SB 2672, RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

To the Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair; the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2672, relating to sustainable development goals; sustainable cities and communities and the United Nation's Global Goal Eleven. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2672 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2672, is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eleven, sustainable cities and communities. Specifically, the DPH Platform states that "[t]he Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment are 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 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 'aina 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 freshwater 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 adaption 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." (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 406-425, 432-439 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No. 2672 codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal Eleven pertaining to sustainable cities and communities, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativeprorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

SB-2672

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:44:02 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	l estifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Fox	The Nature Conservancy	Support	Yes

Comments:

The Nature Conservancy supports including all seventeen United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and indicators into State law. We understand that there may be some questions related to the most effective placement of the SDGs within chapters of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes. We defer to consultation between the Legislature and the Executive Administration as to placement in the HRS.

The Nature Conservancy's local, national and global conservation goals and strategies for protecting lands and waters, water quality, sustainable fisheries, and climate change mitigation and adaptation directly reflect established, credible commitments from major international agreements, particularly the U.N. SDGs. The SDG commitments empower our conservation work in Hawai'i and beyond to contribute to global efforts that improve the health and function of nature and human well-being.

SB-2672

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:47:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Cooper	Hawaii Institute for Human Rights	Support	Yes

Comments:

We are pleased to support SB 2672 aligning our state policies with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and continuing our aspirations for the ALOHA + Challenge. The UN SDGs provides a roadmap to realize Global Goal 11 focusing on Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Our communities are the heart of Hawai'i. Our cities continue to grow as people seek opportunities not available in the country. We believe the Global Goals offers a good balance of planet, people and peace.

SDG #11 provides guidelines for government in public policy making to ensure inclusivity, safety, reilience and sustainability are core in our decisionmaking. It also supports housing as a human right with a capacity for participatory process for human settlement in Hawai'i. It also has broad visioin of protecting our cultural and natural heritage in the public policy planning.

An important target is to also consider people in vulnerable situations due to climate related disasters and provide holistic disaster resilient risk management plans utilizing local materials.

We will look forward to work together in spirit of solidarity and in unity to forge a future of freedom in Hawai'i. We recognize the Global Goals is an opportunity to gather and grow a moral movement for a bold and better world.

Maluhia Me Ka Pono

<u>SB-2672</u> Submitted on: 1/31/2018 8:16:23 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2018 2:45:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Yuen		Support	No

Comments:

I am Nathan Yuen, Conservation Chair for the Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter. I strongly support SB 26762 which codifies sustainable development goals. The Hawaiian Islands are tiny islands in the vast Pacific Ocean and the land we live on is finite. We must work to live in harmony with nature and not overexploit our resources if we are to survive into the future. I stroing support SB2672.