LEO R. ASUNCION

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Statement of LEO R. ASUNCION

Director, Office of Planning before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS

Wednesday, March 14, 2018 9:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of SB 2677, SD2 RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business.

The Office of Planning supports SB 2677, SD2 Relating to Sustainable Development Goals. SB 2677, SD2 seeks to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the Hawaii State Planning Act, to codify one of the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, a group of 17 goals to transform our world; SB 2677, SD2 specifically seeks to codify UN Sustainable Development Goal, global goal 16, to ensure peace, justice, and strong institutions by 2030.

The Office of Planning appreciates the adoption of global goal 16 to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; providing access to justice for all; and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels throughout the State of Hawaii by 2030.

The Office of Planning supports the amendments made in the Senate Draft 2 version of this bill, codifying this proposal in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 226, the Hawaii State Planning Act, to be consistent with HRS § 226-108, the State's sustainability priority guidelines and principles.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



AIRPORT CONCESSIONAIRES COMMITTEE

Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair Committee on Economic Development & Business Hawaii State House Hawaii State Capitol

March 14, 2018, 9:30 a.m., Room 309

Re: S.B. 2677 SD2 – Relating to Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Dear Chair Evans 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 "peace, justice, and strong institutions" 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-2677-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 3:39:43 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/14/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



PANKAJ BHANOT DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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

March 12, 2018

TO: The Honorable Representative Cindy Evans, Chair

House Committee on Economic Development & Business

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: SB 2677 SD2 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Hearing: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 309, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the proposed bill as it aligns with the department's transformation efforts and mission to support the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in Hawaii.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The purpose of the bill is to codify sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal sixteen, relating to peace, justice, and strong institutions.

DHS has a large stake in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies; providing access to justice for all; and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions in Hawaii. DHS provides benefits and services to one in four Hawaii residents, or nearly 360,000 individuals, and provides medical insurance coverage for over 40 percent of Hawaii's children. DHS has the largest operating budget of any state department, approximately \$3.3 billion, to provide benefits and services relating to homelessness, education, employment, safety, health care, child care, food security, protective, and vocational rehabilitation services.

At the 2015 Access to Justice Conference sponsored by the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission, Hawaii Supreme Court Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald said:

One of the greatest challenges to equal justice today is the lack of effective access to our civil justice system. The reason is simple—people who have low or even moderate incomes cannot afford to hire an attorney to represent them in their civil legal cases. Although there are legal services providers like the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii who do an amazing job representing indigent clients, they have nowhere near enough resources to meet the need. As a result, every year in Hawaii, thousands of people must represent themselves in our civil courts, trying to navigate a system that is foreign to the average layperson. Many of them simply give up.

Ensuring that every person's voice is heard when their legal rights are threatened is not a luxury—rather it is at the very foundation of the legitimacy of our courts, and therefore, our democracy. We are talking about fundamental human needs—housing, health care, and the ability to participate in raising one's child. When these decisions are made without hearing every side of the story, the promise of justice for all rings hollow.

To this end, DHS administers contracts for civil legal services and has experienced staff to administer contracts. In state fiscal year 2016, with a mixture of federal and state funds, DHS administered nearly \$14 million to provide a spectrum of services related to domestic violence (DV), including civil legal services, DV shelters, DV support services, rental assistance, and homeless services. The population served includes families with dependent children that are experiencing legal barriers as a result of DV, families in DV shelters, and immigrants experiencing domestic violence.

Additionally, as part of the continuing effort to reform the juvenile justice system, the Office of Youth Services (OYS) proposed administration measure SB 2791 SD2, which establish the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility of the OYS to incorporate a more therapeutic and rehabilitative focus. The proposed Wellness Center will provide mental health treatment services, substance abuse treatment services, a crisis shelter for homeless youth, a crisis shelter for commercially sexually trafficked youth, vocational training, group homes, day treatment programs, educational services, and such other services as may be required to meet the needs of the youth at risk and young adults at risk. The Wellness Center will improve and enhance

Hawaii's juvenile justice system by preventing juvenile delinquency and lowering recidivism with support services for at risk youth, including homeless youth, sex trafficked youth.

Further, DHS is part of the national movement to improve the delivery of human services lead by the National Governors' Association, the American Public Human Services Association, Ascend of the Aspen Institute, and others. DHS is adopting a service integration and multigenerational approach, is redesigning its business processes, and continues to improve its technology systems. Through service integration and addressing the needs of multiple generations in a family concurrently, efforts and resources will be better targeted to support the well-being of individuals and families.

Ultimately, the goals of transformation are to improve well-being of individuals, families, and the community, reduce intergenerational poverty, reduce dependence on public benefits, and reduce the human and fiscal costs of poverty. The department's proposed administration bills, SB 2793 SD2/HB 2366 (now HB 1926 HD1), will underpin the department's transformation from a siloed service delivery model to an integrated and multi-generational model.

The proposed SB 2677 SD2 furthers the goals of DHS as we transform to an integrated service delivery system with a focus on supporting every recipient's human potential; promoting peaceful and inclusive societies; providing access to justice for all; building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions in Hawaii; and improving the community's overall health and well-being.

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

<u>SB-2677-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/13/2018 9:10:39 AM

Testimony for EDB on 3/14/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:



Hawai'i Green Growth is a statewide public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's sustainability and climate goals, and serve as a model for integrated green growth

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth

In Support of SB2677 SD2 Relating to Sustainable Development Goals
House Committee on Economic Development and Business
14 March 2018, 9:30am, Room 309

Honorable Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

As a statewide partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) **strongly supports SB2677 SD2** to adopt the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into state law. We recognize the critical importance of promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies, as highlighted through SDG16. Even further, HGG recommends adopting the entire global framework with all 17 SDGs, as reflected in **SB2661 SD2**. HGG acknowledges discussions underway to determine the appropriate placement in HRS, but supports the overarching vision to holistically address 21st century challenges that cut across environmental, social, and economic priorities.

We appreciate the Senate's leadership on the 2018 Majority Program on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the support for Hawai'i sustainability initiatives over the past several decades. Our partnership believes that the SDGs can help advance local efforts to address key challenges in Hawai'i across housing, climate change, energy, environmental protection, health, education and economic development by acknowledging that none of these can be addressed without consideration for the others. We cannot meet our climate goals without achieving sustainable development outcomes and vice versa. Senator Kenneth Brown's 1973 Mālama Hawai'i speech proposed that every action – economic, social and political - be guided by *mālama*. The 17 SDGs embody Hawai'i's mālama 'āina approach to resource management, and counsels the necessity of maintaining a balance between all aspects of our environment, society, and economy. In many ways Senator Brown foretold the eventual arrival of the SDG framework.

Hawai'i launched the *Aloha+ Challenge: He Nohona 'Ae'oia* one year prior to the formal adoption of the SDGs by over 190 countries. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is led by the State Legislature (Senate Concurrent Resolution 69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and private sector and civil society partners. Building on Hawai'i's history of systems thinking and many community initiatives, this commitment identifies statewide sustainability goals across energy, food, natural resources, waste, smart sustainable communities and climate, green education and workforce. Hawai'i's *Aloha+ Challenge* is recognized as a place-based model to support locally and culturally appropriate implementation of the SDGs. At the same time, the global SDG framework supports the implementation of local models like the *Aloha+ Challenge*, Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, 100 Resilient Cities, Promise to Pae 'Āina, and other efforts, and can help attract new resources to drive implementation. It also builds on Hawai'i's recent adoption of the Paris Agreement (Act 32) and the inspiring Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. Enacting SDGs into state law is significant for Hawai'i locally, nationally and internationally.

Above all, the partnership recognizes that Hawai'i's long-term security in the face of climate change and other challenges is now linked to the success of this global agenda. Because of the scale of the threat, this is no longer something Hawai'i can do alone. Indeed, for many in the international community, Hawai'i holds the answer to finding the balance based on the wisdom of our host culture and fundamental island values, as embodied in Senator Kenneth Brown's speech delivered 45 years ago. It is our kuleana, both a responsibility and privilege, to partner with communities across the globe to build a more sustainable future for Hawai'i and island earth.

Thank you for your visionary leadership and for the opportunity to submit testimony.

<u>SB-2677-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/13/2018 12:21:28 PM

Testimony for EDB on 3/14/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shawn Uehira	Oahu Economic Development Board	Support	No

Comments: