

OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
WATER AND LAND**

Monday, March 16, 2020
1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of
SCR 43 / SR 22

**DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE
COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND
EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.**

Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committees:

The Office of Planning **supports** SCR 43/SR 22, declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

The Office of Planning's Sustainability Coordinator recently attended the United Nations General Assembly Climate Action Summit in September 2019 at the invitation of the United Nations to attend the 2nd High-level and Regional Government Forum on the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. It was at this United Nations General Assembly where the Secretary-General of the United Nations announced that collectively, we are amidst a "climate emergency—as a race we are losing but is a race we can win."

Following this Climate Action Summit, the United Nations published the *Report of the Secretary General on the Climate Action Summit and the Way Forward in 2020*.¹ This report recommended 10 Priority Areas for Action in 2020, to:

1. Secure commitments of the main emitters to increase ambition of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) by 2020 with the view of cutting CO₂ emissions by at least 45% by 2030 in line with the global objective of net zero by 2050 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Reaching net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050.

¹ United Nations. 2019. Report of the Secretary General on the Climate Action Summit and the Way Forward in 2020. Available online: https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/assets/pdf/cas_report_11_dec.pdf.

3. Deepening the ambition of NDCs with sectors that were not fully part of the picture in 2015.
4. Addressing the social dimension of climate change.
5. Curtailing the current coal capacity and ensuring no new coal power plants are built after 2020.
6. Accelerating the transition to 100% renewable energy.
7. Accelerating the shift of the financial flows, keep pushing on carbon pricing and ensure access to sustainable finance.
8. Stepping up support for people affected by climate change and making the shift towards a resilient future.
9. Delivering on commitments made at the UN Climate Summit to Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.
10. Implementing the Climate Action Summit's initiatives aiming at the deep decarbonization of key economic sectors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 12:11:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Testifying for Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

Comments:



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS			MAILING ADDRESS
John Bickel, President	Melodie Aduja	Chuck Huxel	Stephen O'Harrow	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Juliet Begley	Jan Lubin	Lyn Pyle	Honolulu
Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer	Ken Farm	Jenny Nomura		Hawai'i 96823
Doug Pyle, Secretary	Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Dave Nagaji		

March 11 , 2020

TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard & Kahele & AEN/WTL Committee Members

RE: SCR 43 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Support for hearing on March 16

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SCR 43 as we recognize the human induced change to our planet and the severity of the threat of that change to continued life on Earth.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel President



SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 1:59:10 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Testifying for We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly Support SCR43

www.WeAreOne.cc



**Healthy Climate
Communities**

Testimony in support of SCR43

Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land

Hearing Monday March 16, 2020, 1:15pm

Dear Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, and Committee members,

I am writing in strong support of SCR43 which declares a climate emergency and requests Statewide collaboration to restore a safe climate.

As the larger carbon emitter among the Pacific islands, Hawai'i has an important role to play in reducing emissions as well as becoming a role model for other states and island nations alike to follow suite. SCR43 goes beyond proclamations and makes some helpful commitments: to prohibit investment in burning carbon for energy, and to include a climate impact section to departmental reports. By calculating and reporting the greenhouse gas emissions we will become aware and more likely to make choices that reduce them.

Mahalo,

Dr. Lisa Marten

Executive Director
HealthyClimateCommunities.org
healthyclimate@hawaii.rr.com



Young Progressives Demanding Action
P.O. Box 11105
Honolulu, HI 96828

March 16, 2020
1:15 PM

TO: Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment (AEN)
Senate Committee on Water & Land (WTL)
RE: Testimony in Support of SCR 43/SR 22

Aloha Chair(s) Mike Gabbard and Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair(s) Russell Ruderman and Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment and Members of the Senate Committee on Water & Land,

Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA) advocates for public policies that reflect the values of young people throughout the State of Hawai'i. One of those values is that . YPDA is in **Support of SCR 43/SR 22**. This resolution would declare a climate emergency and request statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

It's important to think about what's next as we deal with the climate crisis and its impacts on our lives. Nationally, the Green New Deal is calling for a mobilization that we probably have not seen since Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal during the Great Depression. Demanding a transformation of American society and the economy to deal with both climate change and the need for social and economic equality.

Locally, as the State of Hawai'i's Climate Change Portal puts it, "About 550 cultural sites, 38 miles of major roads, and more than \$19 billion in assets will be vulnerable to chronic flooding resulting from a 3.2 ft increase in sea level. Such widespread flooding will change the character of the island by affecting cultural heritage and daily commerce/lifestyles." This is just one snippet of how our cultural and natural resources, our economy, our way of life will be negatively impacted by climate change. This is an emergency and needs to be treated as such.

We need action now and a mobilization of our own on a statewide level. It is poorer communities and future generations who will have to bear the brunt of the climate crises if we don't act. However it doesn't have to be this way. Article XI, Section 9 of the Hawai'i State

Constitution guarantees us the right to a clean and healthful environment. The State needs to fulfill this constitutional obligation. There are important solutions presented in this resolution such as public education, stakeholder outreach, investment in reforestation, prohibition of fossil fuel investments, climate friendly land use decisions, and so much more to restore a safe climate that needs to be implemented as speedily as possible.

Hawai‘i has made important goals such as making Hawai‘i 100% renewable energy by 2045, but those goals need actual people at work to implement it. A true just transition to a green economy requires not just more clean and renewable green jobs, but jobs that ensure that workers such as those currently in fossil fuel, plastics, and other harmful industries are able to take care of their families when the time comes, and not be left behind in this new and changing economy. We have a lot of work to do, it’s time to get started.

Young Progressives Demanding Action is in **Support** of **SCR 43/SR 22**. We respectfully ask for you to pass it through your respective committees.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,
Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair
Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA)
Cell: 808-255-6663
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com
CC: action@ypdahawaii.org

Law Office of Daniel M. Galpern, Esq.

March 12, 2020

Dear Members of the House and Senate,

This is to support SCR 43, Declaring A Climate Emergency And Requesting Statewide Collaboration Toward An Immediate Just Transition And Emergency Mobilization Effort To Restore A Safe Climate.

I am a public-interest attorney based in Eugene, Oregon. In recent years I have focused on state, federal and international policy and litigation that seeks to curtail dangerous climate change. I have served, as well, as an adjunct at the University of Oregon School of Law and previously helped run the law school's Environmental Law Clinic.

My relevant publications include *Atmospheric Recovery Litigation: Making The Fossil Fuel Industry Pay To Restore A Viable Climate System*, Environmental Law (July, 2015), and *Climate Change 101: Urgency and Response*, Env't'l Law and Litigation (2008).

Your declaration is warranted by the facts.

Climate change is already visiting enormous harm upon humanity and nature on a global scale. Impacts include sea level rise; species die-off due to changing bioregions; and increased incidence and/or severity of natural disasters including heatwaves, drought, wildfires, and hurricanes. This list is partial. Some impacts, including particularly sea level rise, are especially acute in Hawaii due to the state's extensive coastlines. Vulnerable communities, including people of color and low-income people will bear the brunt of these climate change impacts.

The images below—produced by my law office from Climate Central's mapping tool¹—show land area at risk of inundation in Honolulu and the areas of Kahului and Kihei in Maui in 2100. The images depict 95th percentile outcomes of modeled runs from a recent sea level rise study, accounting for a 10-year flood height on top of presumed median global sea level rise of 2.43 meters.² Inundated land is shown in red. Other researchers have projected even higher sea level rise over the same timeframe, implying even more devastating impacts.³

¹ See Coastal Risk Screening Tool: <https://coastal.climatecentral.org/>

² Scott Kulp and Benjamin Strauss. *Flooded Future: Global vulnerability to sea level rise worse than previously understood*. *Nature Communications* 10 (2019). Available at: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-12808-z>

³ For instance, a team led by noted climate scientist James E. Hansen pointed to the potential of sea level rise of up to several meters on a timescale of as little as a few decades. See: *Hansen et al. Ice melt, sea level rise and superstorms: Evidence from paleoclimate data, climate modeling, and modern observations that 2°C global warming could be dangerous*. *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* 16 (2016). Available at: <https://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abs/ha04710s.html>



It is not too late to prevent catastrophic impacts such as is depicted here, but the clock is ticking. Indeed, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (“IPCC”) has projected that humanity must reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions by roughly 50% by 2030 in order to retain even a 66% chance of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.⁴

Your climate emergency declaration should set the stage for pointed, substantive policy change. Decisive action is required. By SCR 43 you announce Hawaii’s refusal to succumb to the devastation that will attend business as usual.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Galpern, Esq.
Law Offices of Daniel M. Galpern
2495 Hilyard St.
Eugene, Oregon 97405

⁴ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2018. “Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5° C.” See: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 4:50:32 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Harris	Testifying for The Climate Mobilization	Support	No

Comments:

Sustainable Energy Hawaii

421 Lama St.
Hilo, HI 96720



Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land

Monday, March 16, 2020

SUPPORT for SCR43, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chairs Gabbard, Kahele, and members,

I am Richard Ha, President of Sustainable Energy Hawaii, a coalition of concerned citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii residents through affordable energy, generated from local renewable resources. I am testifying in support of SCR43.

Our archipelago is already being impacted by a changed climate. We are at risk due to sea level rise, temperature extremes, and more powerful storms. The situation will only worsen and will result in a less ideal world for our children and future generations if we don't act now. We must act with urgency because the situation is urgent; we are in a climate crisis and the signs are everywhere.

Our transition from fossil fuels – a key contributor of the emissions that are destroying our environment – is something that Hawaii is well-poised to do. We are the most fossil fuel-dependent state and we pay a premium for the energy that we import. Ironically, we have several abundant renewable energy sources like solar, geothermal, wind, and hydro, and they are cheaper than fossil fuel. These energy sources can be used to generate our electricity and to create renewable gas for heating, transportation, and industrial processes. We are making good progress in the utilization of these renewable energy sources, but we still have a long way to go.

SCR43 will send a message to our residents and the world that we acknowledge the need for urgent climate action. It will help pave the way for decisions and actions that will help us reduce our emissions, implement necessary adaptation and resiliency plans, and achieve energy independence.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Ha'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Richard Ha
President
Sustainable Energy Hawaii



**Written Statement of Elemental Excelerator
before the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land**

In consideration of [SCR 43](#)

March 16, 2020

**Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice-Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran, and
Members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and
Land:**

Elemental Excelerator submits support for SCR 43, which declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration towards an immediate and just transition and an emergency mobilization to restore a safe climate.

Elemental Excelerator is a Honolulu-based non-profit organization that supports climate positive startup companies that are helping solve Hawai'i's most urgent environmental problems. Each year, we select 15-20 companies annually that best fit our mission and fund each company up to \$1 million. To date, we have awarded \$36 million to 99 companies resulting in 36 demonstration projects in Hawai'i & the Asia Pacific.

We support SCR 43 because we believe the resolution reaffirms the achievement of the State's clean energy and sustainability goals and diversifying our economy through cleantech innovation. In April 2018, Elemental Excelerator commissioned a study entitled *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*. The study found that in Hawai'i, transitioning to renewable energy is cheaper than sticking with fossil fuels like oil and coal. Furthermore, accelerating our transition to a carbon-neutral, clean economy can bring an additional **\$2.9 billion** in new investments and as many as **3,500 additional jobs to Hawai'i**.¹

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Huynh

Tiffany Huynh
Director of External Affairs

¹ Larsen, J., Mohan, S., Herndon, W., Marsters, P., & Pitt, H. (2018, May 01). *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*, p.22, Retrieved from <https://rhg.com/research/transcending-oil-hawaiis-path-to-a-clean-energy-economy/>



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT AND WATER & LAND
Monday, March 16, 2020 — 1:15 p.m. — Room 224

Ulupono Initiative supports the intent of SCR 43, Relating to Climate Emergency Declaration.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Amy Hennessey, and I am the Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve our community's quality of life by creating more locally produced food; increasing affordable clean renewable energy and transportation options; and better managing freshwater and waste resources.

Ulupono supports the intent of SCR 43, which declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

Ulupono supports the State's commitment and efforts to address climate change. While this resolution is a vital statement, it is important to note that there have been multiple goals and policies passed by the Legislature over the past decade to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This resolution is different because it declares that Hawai'i is in a climate emergency, and therefore, the time for action is now.

We would like to see programs developed and implemented that look to address greenhouse gas emissions through impactful solutions. For example, more than 60% of Hawai'i's fossil fuel use is derived through the transportation industry, with ground transportation accounting for 27% by itself, which is more than the energy sector altogether. Alarming, current direct electric vehicle (EV) benefits offered by the State, which directly influenced a spike in clean vehicle purchases, will sunset June 30, 2020. As a result, there will be no state program to support reducing fossil fuel dependency for ground transportation. Through state incentivized programs such as a direct rebate or tax credit to residents for new EV purchases, to which 17 states currently offer across the United States, the Hawai'i State Legislature would be acting on the policies and goals that have been discussed and promoted for the last 10 years. The State should continue to lead by example and further show the world that Hawai'i is serious about the sustainability and resiliency of our community by encouraging programs, such as incentivized EV adoption, that look to address greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our carbon footprint.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Amy Hennessey, APR
Senior Vice President, Communications & External Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 3:54:26 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Climate Protector	Testifying for Climate Protectors Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

March 14, 2020

Notice of Hearing March 16, 2020 1:15pm Room 224

To: The Honorable Michael Gabbard Chair, The Honorable Russell Ruderman Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

and

The Honorable Kai Kahele, Chair, and the Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

SCR43/SR22 Declaring a climate emergency

Position: **Strong Support!**

The Climate Protectors Coalition **strongly supports SCR43 and SR22!**

We are a new group inspired by the Mauna Kea Protectors but focused on reversing the climate crisis. As a tropical island State, Hawaii is and will be among the first places harmed by the global climate crisis, with more intense storms, loss of protective coral reefs, rising sea levels, and species eradication. We must do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and become at least carbon neutral as soon as possible.

These resolutions would have the State take two important steps: declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration and mobilization to restore a safe climate. It is essential that Hawaii identify the crisis and the need to begin working together toward solutions. Please pass these resolutions Mahalo!



183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • info@350Hawaii.org

To: The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment (AEN)
and
The Senate Committee on Water and Land (WTL)
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020, 1:15 pm

In strong support of SCR43

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran, and Committee members of AEN and WTL:

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii's 6,000 members **strongly support SCR43**. This resolution takes the critical and necessary step to declare a climate emergency and call for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

We are part of the last generation that can stop devastating climate change. This resolution would do more than just declare the obvious state of the climate crisis we know we are in. SCR43 establishes a framework for the type of bold actions needed to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a livable future for our children. Moreover, it will make climate action a priority across all parts of State government, which is crucial for us to truly and effectively address this crisis.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments in or subsidies for projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling investments and subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. These efforts are a win-win as they will not only help protect the stability of our climate system, they will help ensure a just transition for communities and workers, including those currently employed in the fossil fuel industry, by helping to create quality, clean energy jobs, and as a result, a healthier local economy.

We ask that you not be swayed by those with short-sighted self-interests that may argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require **all of us** working together. Hawaii can and should be a leader in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children.

But combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR43 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown. Every second that we delay in reducing our carbon footprint imposes costs on ourselves and on countless future generations. If we want to avoid climate catastrophe, we need to act soon.

In closing, I wish to share the words of a young climate activist who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, Greta Thunberg.

"Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope, but I don't want your hope. **I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic.** I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is."

It's time to declare a climate emergency. Because it is.

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

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 10:39:44 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Hall Morin	Testifying for Big Island Electric Vehicle Association	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Gabbard, Kahele, and members,

I am a member of the Big Island Electric Vehicle Association (BIEVA) and I am testifying in strong support of SCR43.

BIEVA is a grassroots advocacy group that is dedicated to furthering the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) on Hawaii Island. Our members are EV owners and advocates of zero-emission transportation. EVs are an effective means for everyday people to contribute to the reduction of global warming emissions. EVs are also more cost-effective to operate and maintain and don't contribute to air pollution. However, adoption is still very low (around 1%). We need to incentivize ownership and build the infrastructure needed to charge EVs.

A climate emergency declaration and a commitment to take urgent action on the climate crisis (what SCR43 addresses) will allow our state to focus our resources and efforts on even more meaningful climate action. We must reduce our carbon emissions and ensure our readiness to adapt to the changes that are being brought on by the climate crisis. This will require investment and sacrifice; it will require Hawaii's residents to understand the need to act with urgency. A climate emergency declaration at the state level will help pave the way for this action.

Please support SCR43.

Thank you.

Stephanie Hall-Morin

Big Island EV Association Leader

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 2:31:45 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

On behalf of the 5,000 members and supporters of Our Revolution Hawaii, we stand in strong support of SCR 43: Declaring A Climate Emergency And Requesting Statewide Collaboration Toward An Immediate Just Transition And Emergency Mobilization Effort To Restore A Safe Climate.

Along with our 5,000 members and supporters some 1,361 youth and adults of Hawaii have so far signed on to the petition asking Governor Ige to declare a Climate Emergency. Here's the link to the petition: https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/i-support-an-emergency-climate-declaration?source=direct_link&link_id=0&can_id=00ff81c3ff9e1cfe9671b6444c1adb81&email_referrer=email_618672_subject_805257&email_subject=climate-emergency-petition-for-hawaii

Climate Change is the number one concern of our youth, because they fear for their future, and rightly so. Climate Change is the biggest challenge human beings have ever had to face. If our response is inadequate to this challenge it could mean the extinction of our species.

It is tragic that in the Climate Emergency we face, many do not want to listen to what scientists are warning, nor understand the devastating effects of our actions from the use of fossil fuels. But if we continue in our 'business as usual' mode and fail to heed these warnings, it will be too late to do anything to prevent the worst case scenario of out of control Climate Chaos.

The appropriate response right now is to acknowledge that the Climate Crisis is already here and growing more intense every year. This resolution takes the very first step to our coordinating an appropriate response together.

For the sake of the future of our children, please pass this essential resolution and set us on the path to responding appropriately to this crisis.

Malama Pono, Dave Mulinix, Organizer, Our Revolution Hawaii



SCR 43/SR 22, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

MARCH 16, 2020 · SENATE WATER AND LAND COMMITTEE AND SENATE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE · CHAIRS SEN. KAIALI'I KAHELE AND SEN. MIKE GABBARD

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: IMUAlliance supports SCR 43/SR 22, declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding.

Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring, like seawalls.

Furthermore, according to research conducted by Michael B. Gerrard from Columbia Law School, modern-day slavery tends to increase after natural disasters or conflicts where large numbers of

people are displaced from their homes. In the decades to come, says Gerrard, **climate change will very likely lead to a significant increase in the number of people who are displaced and, thus vulnerable, to human trafficking.** While the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015 established objectives to limit global temperature increases and several international agreements are aimed at combating modern-day slavery, it is highly uncertain whether they will be adequate to cope with the scale of the problem that is likely to occur as a result of climate change.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area—one-third of which is designated for urban use—without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Therefore, our state should take steps to protect Hawai'i's coastal areas, including by declaring a climate emergency and demanding that government and nongovernmental agencies collaborate on solutions to the problems of sea level rise and global warming. For the sake of our keiki, we cannot afford to wait to solidify strategies to preserve our island home for generations to come.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

Monday, March 16, 2020

Senate Concurrent Resolution 43
Testifying in Strong Support

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele; Vice Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran; and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment, and Committee on Water and Land:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii stands in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SCR 43. This Resolution declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

This measure acknowledges that an existential climate emergency threatens humanity and the natural world and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate by (1) providing a statewide commitment to a just transition toward a decarbonized economy that invests in and ensures clean energy, quality jobs, and a statewide commitment to a climate emergency mobilization effort to reverse the climate crisis; (2) a prohibition against any further public or private investment or subsidies in project that will make the climate emergency worse, such as coal, oil, gas, and tree-burning projects, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining; (3) facilitation of investments in beneficial projects and infrastructure such as zero emissions energy and electric vehicles, among others; and (4) organization and tracking of a time-phased implementation plan on greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

2019 was Honolulu’s hottest year on record, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It was the second hottest year on record for the planet Earth, and a year of record temperatures globally and locally. Mayor Kirk Caldwell called the data evidence of a “climate crisis” during a news conference on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at Magic Island, and said it was time for action. He noted the wildfires in Australia, and the record-high temperature of 64.9 degrees Fahrenheit recently set in Antarctica, as evidence. In Hawaii last year, the daily record high was set or tied 273 times, according to the National Weather Service. Of that total, 135 were new daily records. The maximum heat index – a measure of what it feels like when relative humidity and air temperature are combined – was 107.3 degrees at the Waimalu Plaza Shopping Center in Aiea, as well as on the windward side, near the 7-11 store on Kalanianaʻole Highway in Waimanalo.

Plant trees, according to Caldwell, noting his current initiative to plant 100,000 trees across Oahu by 2025. The city is also considering legislation to mandate greener buildings or adjusting setbacks from the seas. Trees, he said, should also be valued as infrastructure.

Josh Stanbro, chief resilience officer, said the heat mapping serves as “a post card for the future of what the heat on this island is going to look like.” It will help the city anticipate how to defend residents from the emerging impacts of climate change. “We just broke all the records last year,” he said. “By all indications, we’re looking at that as the new normal. That’s why we have to take action immediately to try to reverse that trend. We have to completely slam on the brakes in terms of burning carbon fuels for our energy source.”

- 2019 was the hottest year ever recorded in Honolulu.
- 2019 was the second hottest year on record for the planet.
- 2019 was a year of record temperatures globally and locally.
- In 2019, the National Weather Service logged 273 record high temperatures and ties.
- August 31, 2019 was the hottest day of the year for Honolulu at 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

Last year Iki became the first place in Japan to declare a climate emergency. On September 25, 2019, Iki joined more than 1,250 sites in 25 countries in the emergency declaration. The goal is to mobilize resources “at sufficient scale and speed to protect civilization, economy, people, species and ecosystems,” according to the Climate Emergency Declaration website. Many of its residential areas are concentrated around the coast, so the island is vulnerable to rising sea levels, and its dependence on the fishing and farming industries makes the effects of climate change an increasing concern.

Iki Mayor Hirokazu Shirakawa agrees that Iki is facing immediate problems, but he focuses instead on the innovations that the island hopes to test and implement as a government-selected SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Future City. Its goals include replacing fossil fuels with renewables by 2050, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and inspiring other parts of the county to take action.

The main challenge facing Iki’s fishing industry is the steady decline in local seaweed beds. Seaweed is essential to biodiversity, as it provides oxygen and absorbs carbon dioxide. The decline is primarily due to rapidly rising sea temperatures, according to a 2018 study published by the Journal of Coastal Research. Over the past century, sea temperatures around Iki have increased by an average of 34.2 degrees. Seaweed beds were particularly affected in 2013, when sea temperatures rose above 86 degrees, loosening the seaweed from the ocean floor and leaving it vulnerable to a typhoon that washed beds onto breaches. Without seaweed, there is little to draw fish to Iki’s shores.

Climate change has also influenced Hawaii’s fishing industry. Honolulu is the top port in the United States, with landings of fish valued at roughly \$104 million in 2017. However, man-made emissions of carbon dioxide have caused climate change, made the ocean warmer and more

acidic and starved it of oxygen. Last year, the ocean was the hottest it has ever been, wreaking havoc for fish stocks and marine wildlife, including Hawaii's iconic humpback whales.

We are experiencing hot acidic waters, bleaching and killing the coral reefs around Hawaii which provide commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing, create world-famous surfing and diving locations are home to many of our fish and wildlife. Scientists have also concluded that climate change will lead to fewer and smaller bigeye tuna in the ocean. These and other fish stocks that are available could shift their traditional migrations, forcing fishermen to travel farther to catch them, all of which will seriously affect our strong fishing industry, native Hawaiian culture, and way of life.

While President Trump has called climate change a hoax and worked to reverse the Obama administrations climate initiatives, senior U.S. military officers have long been aware of warming's detrimental effects. "Climate change is an urgent and growing threat to our national security, contributing to increased natural disasters, refugee flows, and conflicts over basic resources," the Defense Department told Congress in a 2015 report. "These impacts are already occurring, and the scope, scale, and intensity of these impacts are projected to increase over time." The Defense Department is investing in renewable energy, including solar power and biofuels. By the end of 2020, the armed forces expect to generate 18% of on-base electricity from renewables, up from 9.6% in 2010. They plan to increase that share substantially in the years to come." Like the Defense Department's goal to increase the use of renewable energy, the State of Hawai'i has also taken steps to reach 30% renewable energy by 2020 as the risks to Hawai'i of the effects of climate change are well documented to include sea level rise, stronger and more frequent natural disasters, and loss of our natural resources and habitats. A climate emergency declaration that requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate is necessary and its adoption is imminent.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote favorably on this Resolution which declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja
Co-Chair, Green New Deal Committee
Environmental Caucus
Democratic Party of Hawai'i
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2020/03/05/news/iki-island-seeks-to-lead-the-countrys-fight-against-the-global-climate-crisis/>

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2020/02/20/hawaii-news/mayor-says-2019-was-oahus-hottest-year-ever-and-shares-heat-index-mapping-results/>

https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/02/a-military-perspective-on-climate-change/?utm_source=Civil%20Beat%20Master%20List&utm_campaign=1c4fd235ff-

https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/02/keeping-sustainable-seafood-on-hawaiis-tables/?utm_source=Civil%20Beat%20Master%20List&utm_campaign=1c4fd235ff-

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

PO BOX 6310

Hilo, HI 96720

hawaiidriveelectric@gmail.com

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Committees on Agriculture and Environment, and Water and Land

March 16, 2020

STRONG SUPPORT for **SCR43**, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Kahele, and members,

On behalf of the Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association, I am testifying in strong support of SCR43, a declaration of a climate emergency.

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association is a chapter of the Electric Auto Association, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the adoption of zero-emission vehicles. The Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association includes electric vehicle owners and sustainable transportation supporters across Hawaii. We are involved in education and advocacy, and the expansion of charging and fueling infrastructure for zero-emission vehicles.

SCR43 will help put our state in front of the fight to reduce global warming and prepare its residents for the impact of the climate crisis. It is undeniable that we're in a state of climate emergency. The signs abound; we have been experiencing the impact of the changes to our climate – over the past few years, we've seen the bleaching of our coral, stronger hurricanes, weather extremes, record temperatures, rain bombs, and flooding. These signs will, unfortunately, worsen as global temperatures rise and sea levels rise.

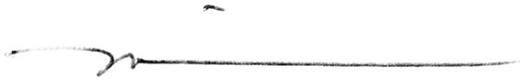
While Hawaii has made great strides to reduce emissions with its 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard and clean transportation goals, more aggressive measures are needed to escalate our progress and to adopt needed resilience and adaptation strategies. SCR43 will help our community understand and acknowledge the need for coordinated and aggressive action. It will raise support for increased investment in many of the areas that we've already committed to doing. It will allow for focus on the social changes and innovations required to counter this existential crisis.

Hawaii continues to be a heavy consumer of fossil fuels. A significant percentage of our electricity is generated from fossil fuel (over 700,000 barrels of oil per month) and gasoline consumption continues to increase (over 40,000,000 gallons monthly), per DBEDT. This dependency contributes to significant emissions and a reliance on energy supplies that are subject to geopolitical risk. On the other hand, we have the opportunity to turn to our abundant renewable sources for our energy needs. Importantly, the cost of renewable energy and storage is now cheaper or on par with fossil fuels. We also have the opportunity to turn to zero-emissions vehicles – battery electric vehicles and fuel cell electric vehicles. These vehicles are

becoming more diverse, are increasing in driving range, and are coming down in price. They are cleaner and more cost-effective to operate and offer Hawaii's residents with the opportunity to contribute directly to a reduction in carbon emissions. At this moment, adoption is still nascent – about 1% of the state's 1 million passenger vehicles are electric. A significant investment in charging infrastructure will be needed to enable broad electric vehicle adoption.

SCR43 will enable the focus and prioritization that will allow Hawaii to make a hasty transition from fossil fuel. Please support it.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Noel Morin - President



Sonja Kass – Vice President



Nanette Vinton – Secretary

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

Hawaii Island Citizens' Climate Lobby

PO BOX 6310

Hilo, HI 96720

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Committees on Agriculture and Environment, and Water and Land

March 16, 2020

STRONG UPPORT for **SCR43**, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chair Gabbard, Kahele, and members,

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Citizens' Climate Lobby, we are testifying in strong support of SCR43.

Hawaii Island Citizens' Climate Lobby is a chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby (citizensclimatelobby.org), a non-profit, non-partisan grassroots organization focused on national legislation to address our climate crisis. We are one of over 400 chapters across the globe that are advocating for effective, fair, and sustainable climate action. We are supportive of policies that put a price on carbon pollution and deliver a dividend, a climate solution that has the support of top economists¹, including many Nobel Prize winners.

Hawaii Island Citizens' Climate Lobby is in strong support of SCR43. A climate emergency declaration will signal the urgency and importance of our climate crisis and the need for timely and effective action. A climate emergency would put Hawaii in good company – over 1400 governments in 28 countries have declared climate emergencies². This highlights the global acknowledgement of the crisis. Importantly, SCR43 lays out critical steps that we must take; it goes beyond a mere declaration of the crisis.

The effects of the crisis are upon us – we are seeing record heat across the state, weather extremes, disruptions to our marine ecosystem, and the erosive impact of rising sea levels. We cannot afford to hesitate or delegate to future debate, the actions that must be taken to reduce our emissions and to ensure that we will adapt to the environmental changes that are being brought about by global warming.

Hawaii is making good progress on climate-related goals that are already among the most ambitious – our 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045 and transportation decarbonization goals are good examples. Additionally, we've seen annual attempts to introduce policies that are geared towards turning the tide on carbon emissions. In this legislative session, we've seen countless bills geared to increasing renewable energy production, electrification of transportation, energy efficiency, resilience, and even carbon pollution pricing! We are concerned about the future of our environment and what our future generations will be left with, and this is reflected in the large number of measures that are attempts to respond. A climate emergency resolution and a commitment to an effective and

¹ [Economists' Statement on Carbon Dividends](#) – Climate Leadership Council

² As of 13MAR2020. [ICEF Governments Emergency Declaration Spreadsheet](#)

coordinated effort will result in a more urgent and laser-focused approach to addressing our existential threat.

Please support SCR43.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Noel Morin', written in a cursive style.

Noel Morin
Co-Lead

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ron Reilly', written in a cursive style.

Ron Reilly
Co-Lead

Hawaii Island Citizens' Climate Lobby

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:06:08 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwamato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SCR 43! As a marine ecosystem specialist in Hawaii, it is clear that we are in the middle of a battle to save our reefs and life as we know it on Hawaii. There is a climate emergency and we need coordinated efforts to mitigate this global threat.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:48:16 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Colwell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I stand in support of all the voiceless - the animals, the coral, the land. We are living in an illusion if we feel that we are separate/our well being is not dependent upon the well being of our planet. We should take action now. Not tomorrow.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:05:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a well considered measure that will have a profound effect on our lives and the lives of our children. I support it strongly.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:54:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Mike Gabbard and Members of the Joint Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing in support of SCR 43.

Please support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 5:27:12 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Noelani Goodyear-Kaopua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kākou

I write in support of SCR43 and with deep concern for the climate crisis that we and future generations in Hawaii face. The current situation requires urgent action. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act boldly. All government agencies need to have climate mitigation and resilience planning as a top priority.

This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

Mahalo.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 6:37:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing in to say that I fully support this bill. I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR43 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

I want to have a livable future. We need bold actions to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a safe and stable climate.

Please support this bill.

me ke aloha 'Ä• ina,

Nanea Lo

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 6:56:29 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran, and members of the committees,

I support SCR43. It has been obvious for over 3 decades that a climate emergency was a real possibility. It has now been 15 years since Hurricane Katrina. The consequences of climate change have only gotten worse.

Hawaii needs to move quickly to address both mitigation and adaptation. The effects of ever increasing greenhouse gas emissions are frightening, especially coastal erosion and sea level rise. SCR43 is a good first step in acknowledging the seriousness of our situation.

Please pass SCR43. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Randy Ching (concerned citizen)

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 7:53:06 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are already too late to be proactive, but there is still time to prevent the worst. Act now, please!

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:41:38 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
donald erway	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:09:03 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR43 which declares a climate emergency in Hawaii, requires urgent action be taken, and makes climate action a priority in State government. We are the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act now and boldly to stop climate catastrophe.

I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 9:59:59 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jack Zimmerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

-My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

-I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 10:54:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ChristopherMcCullough	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 11:09:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Jensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators,

Climate change is the greatest challenge mankind has ever faced. It is a slow moving, gigantic storm with unfathomable inertia that is affecting our state now and will continue to do so for generations into the future. It is the greatest emergency facing us today, and we all need to take action now no matter how small our relative greenhouse gas contribution is to this global problem.

This emergency declaration and the associated collaboration is an essential step to focus our state government and the people of the Hawaii on the serious nature of this threat. We need to dramatically increase our efforts to work toward a carbon free way of life. Hawaii's successful efforts in this regard can provide an example and demonstration to the rest of the US and the world of how local commitment and local resolve can achieve great things. Please support this measure and follow-up with immediate concrete commitments to reduce Hawaii's fossil fuel dependency in all aspects of life.

Sincerely,

Dale Jensen

Professional Engineer

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 11:33:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Nakamura-Higa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Aloha,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR43 FOR AN IMMEDIATE RESTORATION OF A SAFE CLIMATE

It is my honor to be with all of you who've introduced this bill as it's imperative that we recognize and address this climate emergency. Thank you for your action and time.

Kind regards,

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 12:29:34 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Thomas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SCR43 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of the State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act now and boldly to stop climate catastrophe.

I believe we need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part.

Mahalo,

Emily Thomas

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 12:48:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Reeser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in strong support of SCR43. We are at the point that we must take bold action to deal with the climate crisis. Hawaii needs to take the lead on this.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Cheryl Reeser of Makawao, Maui

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 1:46:44 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christian Palmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State Senate

From: Christian Palmer

In Support of SCR 43

Aloha Kakou,

I am writing to support the Senate Resolution to declare a climate emergency. According to the vast majority of scientists we are entering an unprecedented time in global history. Our society's reliance on fossil fuels has created an growing environmental catastrophe that will threaten the well being of our society. This resolution is important to recognize the magnitude of this problem and encourage state agencies to begin to organize and collaborate to reduce or carbon emissions.

Mahalo,

Christian

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 2:03:27 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Bustamante	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because of my concern for climate change, I am worried that if we don't prepare for the possible effects of climate change than we won't be able to recover from this. I am also deeply invested with this bill because it gives people like me ways to handle the situation than going after climate change solutions indivisually. Lastly, I want to thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. Thank you.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 2:08:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
iwi	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate I strongly support this resolution to declare climate emergency because our objective is to take care of our earth not to poison it. we need to take swift and immediate action to address the climate crises dilemma occurring and affecting our communities and countries, its possible it could threaten our way of life sooner or later bad weather, damage marine life, draughts, human casualties, civil unrest. terrible things will happen soon if this dilemma gets worse.

This resolution outlines a bold necessary and framework to address the climate crises affecting our local communities. Mahalo for your time.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 2:17:59 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lanny Sinkin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In 1984, I first learned about climate change through a book published in 1982 by scientist John Hamaker titled *The Survival of Civilization Depends Upon Our Solving Three Problems: Carbon Dioxide, Investment Money, and Population*. Hamaker identified global warming as a threat to civilization. Since 1984, I have watched as Hamaker's predictions regarding the impact of climate change came true. There were some impacts that he missed, such as the release of carbon dioxide as permafrost worldwide melts. In general, the impacts he correctly predicted came true faster than he expected. We are well past tipping points where we could have mitigated such impacts. We can see feedback loops already established. The absence of a comprehensive public plan to respond to the challenge is both astonishing and understandable. The fossil fuel industry knew what was happening long ago and used their political muscle to hide the truth or discredit those trying to tell the truth. SCR43 is a small step in the right direction. I urge your support for this resolution.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 4:43:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kris Matsumoto Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Hawaii State Legislature,

Please pass SCR 43 a Climate Emergency Resolution. It will move us to prioritize climate conscience decisions over short sighted monetary-corporate ones. We are an island. When the oceans rise we will all drown. That putting it dramatically, but you do get that this is an existential threat to our survival. Show Courage and Wisdom Now.

Aloha, Kris Matsumoto Wong

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 5:58:12 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roseann Michaud	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution declaring a climate emergency and laying down plans for the state to take action.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 7:18:46 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
elizabeth hansen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator: Don't be swayed by the short-sighted that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. Please protect the 'Ä€ina and our people.

Please Support This Bill. Thank you.

Eplizabeth Hansen

Hakalau HÄª 96710

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 9:02:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernard M Moret	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear legislators,

My wife, Carol Fryer, and I, both residents and registered voters in Hawaii County, strongly support SCR43. Our state will be among the most affected by climate change and needs to take emergency measures starting immediately. The first step is a declaration of emergency, a public recognition that the future of our civilization is in dire peril. Please support SCR43!

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 10:11:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
donn viviani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chairs, Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs, Ruderman and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members

I'm Donn Viviani. I live in Palolo and have family in the Punchbowl area. I'm writing in support SCR 43.

Before I retired, I was the director of the Climate Policy Division at EPA headquarters in DC. I also served as Chairman of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board's Toxic Substances Committee. I have a PhD in Chemistry. I am familiar with the threat climate change poses to Hawaii, and particularly the threat to the water surrounding our islands.

I want to describe that risk for the Committees in layman terms and explain how serious the risk is. However, in any case, climate science is not fancy and not at all controversial. I focus here on the ocean threat, because we're a group of isolated islands at the mercy of the ocean, some of these effects are imminent and many will be catastrophic.

Three things are happening that threaten a collapse of the entire marine food web, and could cause an inundation and submersion of parts of our islands. Unless we take action VERY SOON these things will become unstoppable.

First, the sun's light heats the air in the same way a microwave oven heats food. The more CO2 from fossil fuel burning, the more heat. Most of that heat ends up in the ocean. Hot water expands and so the oceans rise. This heat is conducted to lower depths and that water expands as well and oceans rise more, i.e., the sea level rises. Hurricanes and cyclones start with evaporation, the warmer the water, the more evaporation, and the more storms and damage to our islands. On Oahu, a six foot rise, projected as early as mid century, would inundate Honolulu up to a few blocks from H1. Storm events will drive the water further inland.

Second, the elevated CO2 in the air from fossil fuel burning, enters the ocean and makes it more acidic. Acidic, corrosive water impairs the growth and survival of animals

that build shells. Because ocean acidification reduces the availability of carbonate ions that marine animals need to calcify their shells and skeletons, CO₂ reduces the ability of these animals to build their protective structures. They must use up energy that they need for reproduction and they will get outcompeted by other species. This destroys the balance that evolved over eons. Acidified waters also can dissolve shells. It's estimated that by 2030 in much of the southern oceans shell would rather dissolve than form.

Third, warmer water holds less dissolved oxygen than colder water. This means less oxygen available for marine organisms to grow. In many instances oxygen is the limiting factor in growth.

Together these three stressors: acidification, warming and deoxygenation are a perfect storm and can act together to destroy the marine food web, by wiping out entire trophic levels. Warm water speeds up marine organism's metabolism. Higher metabolic rates require more nutrients and oxygen. But hotter surface water forms a layer that impedes the transfer of needed nutrients, and that same hotter water drives off oxygen. This with the added stress for acidification has been shown in mesocosm studies to destroy trophic levels and kill all the higher levels dependent on them, i.e. to paraphrase Augustus de Morgan. "Great fish have little fish upon their backs to bite 'em, and little fish have lesser fish, and so ad infinitum" If we start removing layers of fish it all collapses! If we don't act soon we'll have an ocean full of only jellyfish

Therefore I support SCR 43's transition to a decarbonized economy, prohibition of fossil fuel projects, increased investment in beneficial projects, public education of the climate exigency and all the other proposals.

While we all will feel some terrible consequences, your decision today won't affect me or you as much as what awaits our children and grandchildren. I can say without hyperbole, this is an existential risk to our species! Please support this resolution.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 12:29:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Garrett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future. In the process, this transition will create many jobs for our citizens today. Hawaii can be an example to the rest of the country and the world of how to respond to the climate crisis.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 12:31:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha,

Bill SCR43 is crucial to establishing a framework for the type of bold actions we need to meaningfully address climate change. as a 40-year Hawaii resident, i know there's no doubt that our coastlines and other natural resources are being affected by this climate change. Please support this bill as a way to help protect our keiki for a future of beauty, health, peace and opportunity.

mahalo and sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 1:53:10 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Camp	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 3:17:12 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Geyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for your continued support of these urgently needed climate action bills and resolutions. Despite all the issues facing the world right now, we still need to work hard to prevent this predictable crisis that will affect 100% of people around the world.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 7:12:23 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
katherine kazlauskas	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Dear Senators Gabbard, Kahele and the entire AEN and WTL,

I support SCR43 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

We are part of the last front who can mitigate devastating climate chaos. We must act now and boldly to stop climate catastrophe.

We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part.

I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR43 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

I want to have a livable future. We need bold actions to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a safe and stable climate.

If your house were on fire, would you wait until 2045 to put it out? Hollow promises for the future won't douse the flames of today.

Don't be swayed by the short-sighted that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit

harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, “if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won’t make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization.”

Everyone must do something if we are going to prevent climate catastrophe, and Hawaii can and should be the leader in showing the world the way forward to a better future. We are ground zero for climate change and the sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children. But if we and everyone else just continues to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it’s even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future.

We need to declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

Sincerely,

Katherine Kazlauskas

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 9:53:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Leake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 10:37:05 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zoe Malia Ozoa Loos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The following is from 350.org. An organization I am passionate about and believe every word they say regarding climate action and change. I know you must get so many of these types of testimonials, but please believe me that it is important.

You know I actually find myself relying on such testimonials because my anger, passion, frustration, etc get in the way of actually coherently forming a concise argument in my support of the legislation. They fill in the words for, they help me say what I want when my sheer rage and the lack of what this country is lacking gets in my way.

We need change, by this point anyone having to testify, people having to say hey there is a problem lets do something about it is just idiotic. There should be no need to testify. If our house is in trouble and we know exactly what we need to do to fix it, why do we collectively stand outside our amazing home and argue about what to do while in our periphery we see our inaction causing chaos for all those around us?

Please pass this, we need to do what is right for the aina. Mahalo for your work.

I agree with the following as well

-I support SCR43 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of the State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act now and boldly to stop climate catastrophe.

-We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

-My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5-degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

-I urge you to support SCR43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This

resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

-Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part.

-I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR43 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

-We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

-I want to have a livable future. We need bold actions to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a safe and stable climate.

-If your house were on fire, would you wait until 2045 to put it out? Hollow promises for the future won't douse the flames of today.

-Don't be swayed by the short-sighted that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency have aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

-Everyone must do something if we are going to prevent climate catastrophe, and Hawaii can and should be the leader in showing the world the way forward to a better future. We are ground zero for climate change and the sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better of the future will be for our children. But if we and everyone else just continue to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

- Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

-Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us to work together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future.

-We need to declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 4:49:02 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. The state of Hawaii needs to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed. It's time to act.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 8:08:58 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

-I support SCR43!

Declaring a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and making climate action a priority across all parts of State government is critical to achieving decarbonized goals and preserving our Island Communities.

We are in a position to reduce our contribution to climate change. It would be irresponsible to ignore our duty to minimize our environmental impact to our Island and to this planet.

We must act now and quickly to stop irreversible climate devastation.

Mahalo, Gary Miller

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 11:19:45 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henri Etta Schmitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 11:39:49 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gavin Lamb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To the Committee on Agriculture and Environment, and the Committee on Water and Land,

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise and erosion to extreme weather patterns and food insecurity, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us to work together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

Thank you,

Gavin Lamb, Ph.D.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 12:04:15 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zoe Whitney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need legislation like this to address the climate crisis head-on.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 12:34:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Soo San Schake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 2:24:23 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Gray	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

We must act quickly to address this climate emergency we are experiencing. There is no time to waste on ineffective measures. We need an expert team to evaluate the best practices and make the very best decisions going forward. This bill will help us to make the most informed choices to do our part to bring the rest of the country along the pono path with us, instead of the mediocre way we have responded up until now. Mahalo, Laura Gray R.N.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/13/2020 7:29:40 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SCR43. Climate change is already occurring, and Hawaii will be one of the places most negatively impacted due to sea level rise, coral bleaching from warming seas, droughts and more frequent and more intense wildfires.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to present my testimony.

Sincerely,

Andrea Quinn

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 8:48:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paula Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SCR43 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act now and boldly to stop climate catastrophe.

Everyone must do something if we are going to prevent climate catastrophe, and Hawaii can and should be the leader in showing the world the way forward to a better future. We are ground zero for climate change and the sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children. But if we and everyone else just continue to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

Please support and pass SCR43.

Respectfully,

Paula Miller

Ninole, HI 96773

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 2:08:40 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josephine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

Don't be swayed by the short-sighted that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR43.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 2:45:20 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Reilly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Mike Gabbard, Kaiali`i Kahele and members of the Agriculture and Environmental, and Water and Land Committees,

I am in strong support of SCR43,

DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

I have read SCR43 and fully agree with the WHEREAS and FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED items.

Congratulations to all those who worked on this resolution and to all who co-signed.

As you probably are aware, the Hawaii County Council has already unanimously passed its own climate emergency declaration Resolution No. 322-19

RESOLUTION DECLARING A HAWAII COUNTY CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING REGIONAL COLLABORATION TOWARDS AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

I respectfully urge your full support of SCR43. The time for action is now.

Thank you,

Sincerely, Ron Reilly, Volcano Village, Hawaii 96785

Member Citizens' Climate Lobby – Hawaii Island Chapter

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 2:22:14 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nako'olani Warrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 6:38:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cara Oba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration is a critical and necessary first step towards making progress on the significant issue of climate change. The longer we wait, the more urgent the need will be as we can't make up for lost time. The current pandemic situation should serve as an example to all of us of the how awareness/preparedness, collaboration, and collective action are required to prevent individual, community and economic losses both here and around the world. We can take action in Hawaii and begin to develop the knowledge and learning necessary to lead others into the uncertain future. It's a long road ahead and we need to make the most of the opportunity of starting now. Consider this to be "flattening the curve" for climate change damage and losses or on a directly positive end, consider it to be an investment into developing knowledge and skills locally on what will soon be a critical field. Let's be bold and take a proactive stance. We can begin the hard work if we commit to change now.

Wishing the best for all of us,

a deeply concerned Hawaii resident

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 9:25:07 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To:

Agriculture and Environment (AEN)

Mike Gabbard (AEN Chair): sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov

Russell Ruderman: senruderman@capitol.hawaii.gov

Karl Rhoads: senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

Kurt Fevella: senfevella@capitol.hawaii.gov

Laura Thielen: senthielen@capitol.hawaii.gov

Water and Land (WTL)

Kaialii Kahele (WTL Chair): senkkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov

Gilbert Keith-Agaran: senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov

Clarence Nishihara: sennishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov

Gil Riviere: senriviere@capitol.hawaii.gov

Kurt Fevella: senfevella@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Chair and Members,

I strongly support this bill.

I belong to 350HI and I support SCR43 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii. We need to recognize that we are in a climate emergency, declare it, and set in motion a statewide, coordinated mobilization effort across all agencies and entities of State government.

Hawaii is ground zero for climate change. Gov Ige has put Hawaii on a path to 100% renewables. Presently over 50% of our energy comes from renewables. We need an ambitious plan to transition to 100% renewable. SCR43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. To carry this forward we have to create the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

SCR43 creates a statewide collaborative responds toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward stabilizing a safe climate for our keikis' future.

We need to take decisive action for our keikis and future generations - we are the last generation that can and should take action. So let's pass SCR43 and save our island home.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tlaloc Tokuda

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/14/2020 9:26:17 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Kobsa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this resolution declaring a climate emergency and calling for action. This is for sure an emergency. Much more so than COVID.

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 7:26:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We have to reverse the federal govt's head in the sand. Please support this legislation...
Mahalo Lorn DOuglas

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 7:57:27 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Duffett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

We are in a climate emergency and need to face it head on. The scientific evidence is patently clear. We need to take a stand and take action in our personal lives, as a City and as a State and by our example, embolden other States and the federal government to do the same. There is simply no more time to kick the can down the road. We must declare a State of Emergency and act on that with full intention and speed. Because of our isolated geography and limited size, because of our love of the Aina and inspired by the ancient Hawaiian ways of caring for the Land, we can set bold goals to be carbon free, move quickly to all electric vehicles, transform to a sustainable power supply, control our waste and pollution, move towards chemical free, local food production, reduce our dependency on imported goods and become a more self sustaining, eco ally to our planet. We can show that it can be done. Kicking the can down the road is kicking ourselves in the head. Let's be brave.

Mahalo, Kim Duffett, Kaimuki resident, artist and musician

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 9:54:20 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We must do all we can as quickly as possible to halt and reverse global warming. This requires bold action by leaders at all levels of government and by all citizens. Citizens will respond when told the truth about the science and the imminent dangers to our planet. It is up to our local leaders to set the groundwork for action, including ending all fossil fuel use, promoting renewable energy use, sequestering carbon (tree planting, soil sequestration and ocean clean up) supporting green jobs and championing all of these efforts through new legislation, including the declaration of a climate emergency.

We all want to leave our children a better world, but we must act NOW to make that happen.

Please support this climate declaration.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 10:49:38 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nedi McKnight	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 10:38:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Garland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 12:24:48 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Ebert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

March 15, 2020

Dear Chair Gabbard, Kahele, and members,

I am a member of the Big Island Electric Vehicle Association (BIEVA) and I am testifying in strong support of SCR43.

BIEVA is a grassroots advocacy group that is dedicated to furthering the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) on Hawaii Island. Our members are EV owners and advocates of zero-emission transportation. EVs are an effective means for everyday people to contribute to the reduction of global warming emissions. EVs are also more cost-effective to operate and maintain and don't contribute to air pollution. However, adoption is still very low (around 1%). We need to incentivize ownership and build the infrastructure needed to charge EVs.

A climate emergency declaration and a commitment to take urgent action on the climate crisis (what SCR43 addresses) will allow our state to focus our resources and efforts on even more meaningful climate action. We must reduce our carbon emissions and ensure our readiness to adapt to the changes that are being brought on by the climate crisis. This will require investment and sacrifice; it will require Hawaii's residents to understand the need to act with urgency. A climate emergency declaration at the state level will help pave the way for this action.

Please support SCR43.

Thank you,

Emily Ebert

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 12:37:12 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chairs, Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs, Ruderman and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members

From: Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

RE: Support of SCR 43. SR22

Aloha, I'm Wendy Gibson-Viviani, a resident of Palolo. I believe that Hawaii has unique climate change threats that SCR43 addresses.

Our oceans are suffering: they are heating from burning fossil fuels (increasing the CO2); they are rising and becoming more acidic (which destroys the ability of marine animals to form protective shells); they are holding less oxygen and destroying the balance between different layers of ocean life.

SCR43 will help us slow our roll on increasing global warming further, with a target of limiting the warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. SCR43 will help us going forward to clean up the mess we have already created with our overreliance on coal, oil and gas. We need to strive for a decarbonized economy, prohibition of fossil fuels and increased investment in low impact energy projects with workforce retraining.

World leaders and tens of thousands of scientists agree that we urgently need to combat climate change and that our ecosystems have been pushed to their breaking points. Twenty-six countries have already declared a climate emergency as of January 28, 2020. I hope that Hawaii's Legislators will support this effort too.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important issue,

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Palolo

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 1:05:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Bernier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is beyond obvious that we need to do whatever we can to reverse the damage we have done to the planet. **STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS!**

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 2:35:33 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phaethon Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha esteemed members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee,

As we know, the Climate Crisis, like Coronavirus crisis, is a cultural crisis. Current global capitalist social inequities are compounding, straining our institutions and planetary resources. Our biological support systems everywhere are flashing a big red beacon, this system is in critical condition. We need to stop, identify the problem, stop it's spread, and work together to find real, adequate solutions, before system collapse. Please SUPPORT SCR43 to declare a Climate Emergency for Hawaii, encouraging climate mitigation and resilience planning a top priority at a statewide level, including identifying appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed. Counties across the state have already taken this first step in acknowledging we need an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, please do not let the State lag behind in addressing the issues at hand.

Just like Coronavirus, no problem, however daunting, is too big for us to handle, and no individual, or state, is too small to make a difference. If you leaders step up on the Climate Crisis the good folks of Hawaii will take it upon themselves to make the social change to "flatten the curve" to buy us time to save each other from the compounding issues of a collapsing biosphere. We all know it's happening, and we know our only chance to do something about it is rapidly disappearing. So I urge you to be timely and proactive, support SCR43, we need a statewide collaboration to restore a safe climate. Hawaii is ground zero for climate change, we can either lead by example and inspire others to take action to create a better future, or continue to wait for someone else to act, which condemns the planet to an uninhabitable future.

Already our pro-active social mobilization towards Coronavirus is proving that the good people of Hawaii are ready and willing for a WW2 style mobilization, we will do whatever it takes, we can handle big changes as needed and will support each other thru this. We all know a habitable planet is worth saving, just as our vulnerable population and extended ohana. The timing of these twin crisis we face in 2020 is not a coincidence, it is all inter-related and our opportunity to make big change. We need a cultural shift, towards something better, the greater good, a life worth living, with each other, and FOR each other. This is contagious thinking, because it's worth it, and life is better in the sunshine, kindness, and bravery of our hearts. Please be courageous and help us make this shift, now, before it is too late, it is our kuleana, not just responsibility,

but PRIVELEGE, to be be here now in this huge and incredibly important moment in world history.

Please SUPPORT SCR43, it is the right first step in the right direction. Now is an incredible, world changing moment and opportunity, we can do this. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the power of honesty and compassion, ALOHA is key. Please declare a Climate Emergency, alongside the Coronavirus emergency, and let's get to work addressing the root problems that are so evident in our current systems.

Mahalo nui loa,

Phaethon Keeney

Honokaa Hawaii

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 9:58:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this important resolution!

To: The Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment; and Water and Land
From: Brodie Lockard
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020, 1:15 pm

In strongly support of SCR 43

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele and members,

As 350Hawaii's founder, I strongly support SCR 43, to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government.

Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR 43 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

SCR 43 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining.

I urge you to support SCR 43 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. This resolution provides a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate.

Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

Every government official around the world, at every level, is thinking, "Well, we can't fix climate change." And sure enough, every government official around the world, at every level, is not fixing climate change. But someone needs to pitch in. ***Hawaii needs to pitch in.***

We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

Brodie Lockard

SCR-43

Submitted on: 3/16/2020 11:05:44 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly Support!

James E. Hansen, Director
Climate Science Awareness and Solutions Program
Earth Institute, Columbia University

March 13, 2020

Dear Members of the Hawaii House and Senate,

This is to convey my support for SCR 43, a measure declaring a climate emergency and mobilizing state authorities to undertake relevant action.

I serve as the director of the Climate Science Awareness and Solutions Program (CSAS) within the Earth Institute at Columbia University in New York City.¹ Previously I served as the Director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies. I trained in physics and astronomy in the space science program of Dr. James Van Allen at the University of Iowa, conducting early research on the clouds of Venus. Since the late 1970s, my research has focused on Earth's climate, especially human-made climate change. For about half a century, I have dedicated my life and career to studying the enveloping climate emergency.

The current resolution posits that we are in the throes of that emergency. In my professional judgment, the postulation is correct. I hasten to add, albeit with considerable regret, that far worse is yet to come—unless humanity shifts course to rapidly phase out fossil fuel emissions and draw down excess atmospheric CO₂.

The central problem is that our overreliance on fossil fuels has raised the atmospheric concentration of several greenhouse gases,² particularly CO₂.³ As a consequence earth is out of energy balance, with more energy entering the atmosphere as shortwave solar radiation than is reflected or able to be re-radiated back to space. So long as this remains the case, our planet will continue to heat up. My research teams have established that if we fail timely to eliminate that imbalance certain devastating global impacts will occur—some on timescales of decades to centuries, including multi-meter sea level rise.⁴

¹ See <https://csas.earth.columbia.edu/> for details on our program and related information about climate change.

² The important greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, ozone, nitrous oxide, chlorofluorocarbons and water vapor.

³ In the last six decades, that atmospheric CO₂ concentration has risen an astounding 30 percent—from ~316ppm to ~411ppm. See <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/trends/data.html>

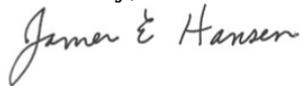
⁴ See, Hansen et al, *Ice melt, sea level rise and superstorms: evidence from paleoclimate data, climate modeling, and modern observations that 2°C global warming could be dangerous*, **Atmos. Chem. Phys.** (2016) at <https://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/16/3761/2016/acp-16-3761-2016.html>.

In order to restore earth's energy balance, humanity must aim to reduce the concentration of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere from its current level to 350 ppm or less.⁵ To achieve this goal within a reasonable timeframe—swiftly enough to avoid (hopefully) large-scale disintegration of major ice-sheets in Antarctica and Greenland—we must rapidly phase out fossil fuel use over the next several decades and draw down excess atmospheric CO₂ by the close of the century. But if we wait too long to commence this process, we risk inducing large-scale climate feedbacks that may cause global warming to proceed out of humanity's control. Thus, the longer we wait, the greater the burden we impose on our children.⁶

Accordingly, action at every level is required. Your declaration heralds that the State of Hawaii will exercise significant leadership. This development arises none too soon.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for SCR 43. Please direct any follow up questions to me through my legal and policy advisor.⁷

Sincerely,



James E. Hansen, Director
Climate Science, Awareness and Solutions Program
Earth Institute, Columbia University
475 Riverside Drive (Room 401-0)
New York, NY 10115 USA

⁵ See, Hansen et al., *Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature*, **PLOS One** (2013) at <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article/file?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0081648&type=printable>.

⁶ See, Hansen et al., *Young people's burden: requirement of negative CO₂ emissions*. **Earth Syst. Dynam.** (2017) at <https://www.earth-syst-dynam.net/8/577/2017/>.

⁷ Dan, at Law Office of Daniel M. Galpern, 2495 Hilyard St., Ste A, Eugene, OR 97405; dan.galpern@gmail.com.