DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAI



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

# Testimony in SUPPORT of HR2 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS

## REPRESENTATIVE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

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

Hearing Date: 2/18/2022

Room Number: 329/Videoconference

- 1 Fiscal Implications: None.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (department) appreciates the agreement of

3 the legislature with the department's Emergency Order and its efforts to remediate the issue and

- 4 hold the Navy accountable.
- 5 **Offered Amendments:** None.
- 6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





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

> ROBERT K. MASUDA FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC RESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

#### Before the House Committees on HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS and ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Friday, February 18, 2022 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 329, Via Videoconference

In consideration of

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6/HOUSE RESOLUTION 2 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS

House Concurrent Resolution 6/House Resolution 2 requests the United States Navy to prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, store its fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the state, and comply with all future remediation efforts **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures and offers comments.** 

The Department and its Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) stands united alongside Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, the Hawai'i Department of Health, and the Honolulu Board of Water Supply calling on the Navy to immediately suspend operations at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility and fully comply with the Department of Health's Emergency Order to begin the process of planning and executing the safe removal of fuel that continues to pose a threat to O'ahu's drinking water. The preparation of a plan is essential to meeting these goals and objectives. The Department suggests that a certified copy of the Concurrent Resolution/Resolution also be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





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

> ROBERT K. MASUDA FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC RESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

#### Before the House Committees on HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS and ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Friday, February 18, 2022 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 329, Via Videoconference

In consideration of

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6/HOUSE RESOLUTION 2 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS

House Concurrent Resolution 6/House Resolution 2 requests the United States Navy to prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, store its fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the state, and comply with all future remediation efforts **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures and offers comments.** 

The Department and its Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) stands united alongside Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, the Hawai'i Department of Health, and the Honolulu Board of Water Supply calling on the Navy to immediately suspend operations at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility and fully comply with the Department of Health's Emergency Order to begin the process of planning and executing the safe removal of fuel that continues to pose a threat to O'ahu's drinking water. The preparation of a plan is essential to meeting these goals and objectives. The Department suggests that a certified copy of the Concurrent Resolution/Resolution also be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures

# **BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU 630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET HONOLULU, HI 96843 www.boardofwatersupply.com



February 18, 2022

RICK BLANGIARDI, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair KAPUA SPROAT, Vice Chair RAY C. SOON MAX J. SWORD NA`ALEHU ANTHONY

JADE T. BUTAY, Ex-Officio DAWN B. SZEWCZYK, Designate Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E. Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair and Members House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness Conference Room 329 & Via Videoconference Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair and Members House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection Conference Room 329 & Via Videoconference Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane, Chair Lowen and Members:

Subject: House Resolution 2: Requesting the United States Navy to Prepare a Plan to Decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, store its Fuel in a Manner Compliant with State Law, establish a New Water Treatment Facility, pay for all Costs to the State and Comply with All Future Remediation Efforts

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports House Resolution (HR) 2.

This resolution requests the United States Navy to decommission the Red Hill fuel facility, establish a water treatment facility and pay for all remediation costs to the State.

The BWS has shut down its Halawa Shaft, Halawa Wells and Aiea Wells due to fuel releases from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility that has contaminated the groundwater aquifer where these BWS wells and the Navy's water supply well obtains its water. Contamination of the Navy's water supply well, Red Hill Shaft, has caused a water contamination crisis at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam unlike any experienced in Hawaii's history. The shutdown of the affected BWS wells poses of the possibility of mandatory water conservation and other measures during the hot summer months in the event the maximum use of available BWS wells is unable to compensate for the loss of Halawa Shaft, Halawa Wells and Aiea Wells.

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair and Members February 18, 2022 Page 2

As alarming as the current crisis is, the permanent shut down of Halawa Shaft, Halawa Wells and Aiea Wells is not the worst-case scenario. The worst-case scenario is a future catastrophic fuel release from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility that further contaminates Oahu's sole-source aquifer and our critical drinking water resources. The BWS respectfully suggests amending the twentieth recital to replace the phrase "the worst-case scenario" with "a possible scenario" to more accurately reflect existing circumstances and possible future outcomes.

A recent contested case hearing and Navy incidences of fuel releases reveal the facility has reached its useful life, the chances of further leaks are real, and the Navy is unable to safely operate the facility without releases. Defueling of the Red Hill tanks is imperative to prevent the risk of further releases into our irreplaceable aquifer and environment. This resolution is calling for the protection and elimination of any further damage by fuel releases into our sole-source drinking water aquifer and environment now and into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer





Osa Tui, Jr. President Logan Okita. Vice President Lisa Morrison Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck Executive Director

# TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS AND ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

RE: HCR 6 / HR 2 – REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chairs Yamane, Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association strongly supports HCR 6/ HR 2.

These resolutions request the U.S. Navy to prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, store its fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the State, and comply with all future remediation efforts.

Delegates to the Hawaii State Teachers Association's annual state convention back in 2008 adopted the following policy statement:

"The Hawaii State Teachers Association believes that every school's drinking water should meet Environmental Protection Agency requirements for clean drinking water. HSTA further believes that school water should be tested every six months and irregularities should be reported immediately."

More recently, the HSTA Board of Directors unanimously called for the defueling and closure of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. (https://www.hsta.org/news/recent-stories/hsta-board-of-directors-unanimously-supports-closure-of-red-hill-fuel-storage-facility/)



1200 Ala Kapuna Street \* Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 Tel: (808) 833-2711 \* Fax: (808) 839-7106 \* Web: www.hsta.org

> Osa Tui, Jr. President Logan Okita. Vice President Lisa Morrison Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck Executive Director

The recent leaks from the facility have directly impacted too many of our members and the communities in which they teach. One such teacher had this to say about their situation:

"We are more impacted by the tainted water. I am only able to have students wash their hands twice a day with the bulk water they gave us with a pump. I am spending a lot of time outside pumping the water out of the bulk bottle, or using the individual water bottles to wash their hands. I don't feel comfortable using the spray hand sanitizer we were given to clean their hands. (It doesn't take off food particles, or other dirt and grime from their hands.) They did give some wipes for their hands, but those will be gone soon. I was washing their hands often, but not anymore. The custodians do not clean our desks. So I use the sanitizing wipes to wipe them down daily. Lots of prep time spent to clean the room. We are still not able to use the AC. We are required to keep windows open. Lots of dirt comes in all day. I also get some stray preschoolers come in the back door. The noise is ridiculous. (Airplanes, lawn mowers, other students at recess.) I don't understand how they think we are supposed to get these students up to grade level with all the distractions."

Civil Beat recently reported (<u>https://www.civilbeat.org/2022/02/red-hills-firefighting-system-was-damaged-long-before-contamination-crisis/</u>) on Red Hill's fire suppression system, the myriad of problems that exist and that the leak into the water system likely came from fuel sitting in that malfunctioning fire suppression system. It was noted in the same article that the system remains unrepaired and that the entire facility is past its design life.

# The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility cannot be allowed to continue to operate and put at risk O'ahu's primary source of fresh water. It must be closed as soon as practically possible.

To provide a safe water for our O'ahu communities, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to <u>strongly support</u> these resolutions.



 To: The House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness (HHH) and The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection (EEP)
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Friday, February 18, 2022, 10am

# In support of HCR6/HR2 with amendments

Aloha Chairs Yamane and Lowen, Vice Chairs Tam and Marten, and members of the HHH and EEP committees,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **supports HCR6/HR2 with amendments.** HCR6/HR2 requests the Navy prepare a plan to decommission the red hill bulk fuel storage facility, store its fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the state, and comply with all future remediation efforts. However, we respectfully submit that this resolution does not go far enough and suggest an amendment to call for an immediate and permanent defueling of the Red Hill jet fuel storage tanks and closing of the facility to ensure the protection of our precious sole-source aquifer.

Hawaii's drinking water supply is already at risk due to the effects of climate change. All the more reason to ensure we take great care in protecting our aquifer from fuel contamination, or any other source of pollution, keeping it safe for current and future generations. With recent tragic events, we have had a glimpse into what it means to lack access to safe, fresh drinking water as we have witnessed the tragic suffering of families who are users of the Navy's Red Hill drinking water well and who are now struggling with a water contamination crisis.

Every day the jet fuel remains 100 feet above our sole source aquifer we are risking catastrophe. Our water is precious and we all have a duty to protect our islands' source of life for present and future generations. It's passed time to remove the threat of something far worse happening to our water supply.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important resolution. Sherry Pollack Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/16/2022 11:24:15 PM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization          | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dave Mulinix | Our Revolution Hawaii | Support                   | Yes                           |

Comments:

## In Support of HCR 6/HR2 with Amendment

Aloha Chairs Yamane and Lowen, Vice Chairs Tam and Marten, and Members of the HHH and EEP Committees,

On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 5,000 members and supporters statewide we stand in **support of HCR6/HR2 with an amendment.** HCR6/HR2 requests the U.S. Navy prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill bulk fuel storage facility, store its fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the state, and comply with all future remediation efforts.

This is a good start, however this resolution does not go far enough and we suggest an amendment to call for an immediate and permanent defueling of the Red Hill fuel storage tanks and closing of the facility to ensure the protection of our precious sole-source aquifer. Every day the fuel at Red Hill remains 100 feet above our sole source aquifer we are risking permanent irreversible catastrophe.

Please pass HCR6/HR2 with the suggested amendment.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

David Mulinix, Cofounder & Hawaii State Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaiʻi

To: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair The Honorable Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

> The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

 Re: HCR6 / HR2 – REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS Hearing: Friday, February 18, 2022, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 329 and Via Videoconference Position: Strong Support

Aloha, Chairs Yamane and Lowen, Vice Chairs Tam and Marten, and Members of the Committees on Health, Human Services and Homelessness; and Energy and Environmental Protection:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports HCR6 / HR 2 and requests that these measures be PASSED by your Committees. These resolutions would request that the United States Navy prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility; store its fuel in a manner that is compliant with state and federal law, away from the Oahu groundwater aquifer; prepare a plan to establish a new water treatment facility adjacent to Red Hill; pay for all costs to the State, and comply with all future remediation efforts to Oahu's environment and water supply and hold the United States Navy accountable for the significant and foreseeable costs to the State as the result of the ongoing Red Hill water pollution crisis; ensure that the United States Navy remediates the damage caused to the Oahu groundwater aquifer, land surrounding the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, and Pearl Harbor; and ensure that any such remediation meets the standards set under state and federal laws.

The Environmental Caucus supports these measures because they call for the decommissioning of the Red Hill Facility; storage of the fuel away from the aquifer; the building of a water treatment facility; and the cost to remediate and the remediation of any damage to the environment, the aquifer, and Pearl Harbor; and the land surrounding the Red Hill Facility and Pearl Harbor to be borne by the United States Navy.

Melodie R. Aduja<sup>,</sup> and Alan B. Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/15/2022 6:56:22 PM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By     | Organization | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| jocelyn arboleda | Individual   | Support                   | No                            |

Comments:

Dear Committee and it's members,

I am in support of the HR2 because Indigenous people of this land are in a constant battle for restoration and protecting water resources. My name is Jocelyn and I am a guest of Hawai'i currently residing in Honolulu. Prior to "Red Hill" this land was called Kapūkakī. Based on historic writings this may have been a marker to identify Leilono, an entrance to Po, the place of gods and ancestral spirits. Meaning, we should value the beliefs of the people who came before us and therefore occupy this space. Secondly, one hundred feet below Red Hill, sits the Southern O'ahu Basal Aquifer which is the primary drinking water source of the island (Sierra Club of Hawai'i, 2022). Fuel leaks have occurred since 2014 from Red Hill meaning jet fuel is contaminating the water for hundreds of thousands of families in O'ahu. The United States military has lacked accountability for the contaminated water and disregarded the needs of the public by not cleaning up or shutting down Red Hill. It reviewed that most pollution-related health impacts were mediated through the consumption of polluted water and food; essentially what the United States Navy is doing to the residents of O'ahu. There is history of the United States military poisoning water and not cleaning up water waste leading to high levels polychlorinated biphenvls (PCB), an increase in cancer rates, birth defects, and miscarriages. I ask for this committee to consider the dangers they are putting these 3,000 residents through and to protect the drinking water system. I support HR2 and its request for the United States Navy to prepare a plan to decommission the Red Hill bulk fuel storage facility, store it's fuel in a manner compliant with state law, establish a new water treatment facility, pay for all costs to the state, and comply with future remediation efforts.

Thank you for your time.

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/17/2022 5:51:10 AM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| <br>Submitted By | Organization | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ashley Nishihara | Individual   | Support                   | No                            |

Comments:

Please shut down Red Hill permanently, once and for all, and defuel those tanks. NOW. And don't even think of bringing the fuel back unless it can go into an above-ground facility that the Navy will pay for. It is beyond frustrating utterly ridiculous that I have to offer testimony for some last-minute bill again and again and again for the same thing, reiterated a million different ways, for something that should be plain common sense. Fuel in water BAD. Clean, pure water GOOD. The Navy keeps whining about national security when they themselves are threatening national security through their callous actions. Hurry up and actually DO something, pass and enforce this bill, LET'S GO ALREADY!

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/15/2022 8:58:07 PM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By  | Organization | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| lynne matusow | Individual   | Support                   | No                            |

Comments:

No need to say more. Vote yes now. Lying Navy, aka SNAFU, cannot be trusted.

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/16/2022 7:01:25 PM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| _ | Submitted By    | Organization | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|---|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
|   | Shannon Rudolph | Individual   | Support                   | No                            |

Comments:

Support.

There is NOTHING more important than protecting Hawai'i's aquifers. Please do everything in your power & beyond, to protect them.

# HR-2 Submitted on: 2/17/2022 6:11:32 AM Testimony for HHH on 2/18/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By    | Organization | <b>Testifier Position</b> | Remote Testimony<br>Requested |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Lynda Nishihara | Individual   | Support                   | No                            |

Comments:

I support the immediate removal of fuel from the Red Hill USTs and the permanent closure of this facility.

## House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

February 18, 2022 10:00 AM

Via Videoconference

In STRONG SUPPORT of HCR6 and HR2: REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO PREPARE A PLAN TO DECOMMISSION THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, STORE ITS FUEL IN A MANNER COMPLIANT WITH STATE LAW, ESTABLISH A NEW WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, PAY FOR ALL COSTS TO THE STATE, AND COMPLY WITH ALL FUTURE REMEDIATION EFFORTS.

Aloha Chairs Yamane and Lowen, Vice Chairs Tam and Marten, and members of the Health, Human Services, & Homelessness and Energy & Environmental Protection Committees,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports** HCR6 and HR2, which will reinforce the message to key decisionmakers, including the United States President and Commander-in-Chief, that the people of Hawai'i are united in demanding the protection of our water supply and our very way of life from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

The current contamination crisis that has upended the lives of tens of thousands of O'ahu residents and resulted in the indefinite closure of municipal wells necessary to support our communities, economy, and way of life will seem minuscule in comparison to the consequences of another, potentially catastrophic release of fuel from the Red Hill Facility. Polls show that it is abundantly clear to the majority of Hawai'i residents that the continued presence of over one hundred million gallons of fuel in the Red Hill Facility poses a daily existential threat to our environment and our people. Unfortunately, we have not seen the expedient and focused dedication needed to safely relocate this fuel away from our groundwater aquifer, and U.S. Department of Defense and Navy actions instead appear to inexplicably contemplate the continued operation of this 80-year-old World War II-era relic.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club strongly supports this resolution as another strong and clear demand to decisionmakers in Washington, D.C. that there is no acceptable course of action other than the expedient defueling and decommissioning of the Red Hill Facility. The Sierra Club is also currently working with numerous other organizations and networks to convey the message that Hawai'i has united in our demand to protect our islands' most precious resource, through statements from both elected representatives and community members from all walks of life; the passage of this resolution will aid tremendously with this effort.

Therefore, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committees to **PASS** HCR6 and HR2. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.