

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

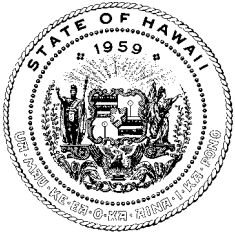
Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of
SB 422
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) supports SB 422.

The Environmental Advisory Council found an inadvertent error in Act 152, Session Laws of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021 (Act 152). Act 152 administratively transferred the Environmental Advisory Council from the Department of Health to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. In doing so, sections 341-3 through 341-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), were repealed. However, section 341-6, HRS which sets out the functions of the Environmental Council, still references a section that was repealed by Act 152. The bill corrects this error.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Testimony of the Environmental Advisory Council on SB422
Before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
February 1, 2023 at 1:00 pm

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

Chairperson
Puananiaona Thoenes

Vice Chair
Mary Begier

Members
Roy Abe
Stephanie Dunbar-Co
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom
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Gordon Scruton, Jr.
Rachel Sprague
Ron Terry
Michael Tulang
N. Mahina Tuteur

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards III, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

I am the Chair of the State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) and submit this testimony in strong **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 422 on behalf of the EAC.

In 2021, the legislature passed HB 1318, which was enacted as Act 152, which, among other things, administratively transferred the EAC to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. In doing so, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Sections 341-3 through 341-5 were repealed. HRS Section 341-6 was amended to update the EAC functions, but still retained a reference to HRS Section 341-4(b)(3), which had been repealed.

The EAC requests that this Committee vote in favor of this measure which will amend HRS Section 341-6 to delete the former reference to HRS Section 341-4(b)(3). The remainder of HRS Section 341-6 will substantively be the same. The EAC thanks Senators Gabbard, Aquino, Chang, McKelvey, Awa, Dela Cruz, Keith-Agaran, and Richards for introducing this.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Puananiaona Thoenes
Chair
Environmental Advisory Council

Robin Kaye
Chair
EAC Legislative Committee