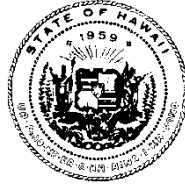


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of
DEAN MINAKAMI
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

March 22, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

In consideration of
SCR 115/ SR 98
**ENCOURAGING DEVELOPERS TO INCORPORATE NET ZERO WATER BUILDING
STRATEGIES WHEN CONSTRUCTING AND RENOVATING HOUSING PROJECTS
IN THE STATE.**

Chairs Keohokalole and Chang, Vice Chairs Fukunaga and Hashimoto, and members of the Committees.

HHFDC **supports the intent** of SCR 115/ SR 98.

HHFDC recognizes that housing development can play a part in ensuring the health of the State's freshwater resources. As an example, HHFDC's Qualified Allocation Plan, which establishes criteria for financing affordable rental housing projects, already provides additional points for water conservation, energy efficiency and green building features.

We believe that the intent of this resolution can best be implemented by the county water departments by offering incentives to housing developments that incorporate conservation measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this resolution.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HOUSING
Friday, March 22, 2024 — 9:30 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SCR 115, Encouraging Developers to Incorporate Net Zero Water Building Strategies when Constructing and Renovating Housing Projects in the State.

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Chair Chang, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports SCR 115, which encourages developers to incorporate net zero water building strategies when constructing and renovating housing projects in the State.

According to the Aloha+ Challenge dashboard, the average amount of water used in Hawai'i is 164 gallons per person per day. This is almost double the national average of 84 gallons. Despite adopting plumbing codes that require the installation of water efficient fixtures for new construction, water use on O'ahu remains at approximately 146 gallons per person per day. In addition, the water pumped from potable aquifers in urban Honolulu continues to exceed what is estimated to be sustainable.

Encouraging the implementation of net zero water building strategies will call attention to solutions such as stormwater water reclamation, on-site water treatment, and green infrastructure to address the ever-increasing demands on our freshwater resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/18/2024 6:24:57 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julia Estigoy-Kahoonei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. All efforts should be made to protect our water resources which should include building projects

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 11:44:16 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chanel L Sebala-Bumanglag	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In this time of a water crisis and to preserve th natural resources we have for the future generations I am in support of causing corporations to adhere to life preserving practices that would help the future of Hawaii. So. I say to supporting this bill.

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 9:57:39 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important measure to protect our ‘āina and wai!

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 11:19:31 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cassandra Chee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SCR115. Our wai has taken so much strain from development. Please pass this resolution to protect our limited and precious wai.

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 11:36:00 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaiah Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of this bill as we are in a water crisis due to water contamination from Red Hill, the recent shutting down of the Halawa well and not to mention the high consumption of water of our ever growing population. Because of said issues we need to cut any and all waste of water including the often wasteful use of water during some types of construction. Reducing water waste is a must and this bill will help to reduce that waste.

LATE

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/21/2024 10:19:52 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makaiwa kanui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support!

LATE

SCR-115

Submitted on: 3/22/2024 7:35:28 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/22/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Wood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Speaking only for myself, I know, as Chair of the Aiea Neighborhood Board, issues surrounding water quality, usage, and conservation have been at the forefront of my constituents minds. The Red Hill Disaster has brought more pressure for our leaders to do something about ensuring that everybody has access to water. With that said, I would recommend that we look at permitting or tax breaks for developers that take advantage of a program like this so we can encourage development of less water usage. I fully support the efforts of this bill and will be putting up for vote on my board next month.