



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

March 26, 2024

To: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Hon. Mike Gabbard, Chair
Hon. Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

Re: SCR 220/SR196 relating to Recycling Construction & Demolition Waste
Hearing: Wednesday, March 27, 2024, 1:00 p.m., Room 224 & videoconference
Position: Strong support

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i comprises some 7,500 politically active members of Hawai'i's majority political party. We strongly support these proposed resolutions. They request Hawai'i's construction industry to increase the recycling of construction and demolition debris and to expand the usage of recycled construction materials to the greatest extent possible. This resolution advises us that this action is essential because, on every major Island in the State, we are running out of landfill space. (In addition, such change of approach is environmentally more sound.)

No one can argue that we can continue loading up landfills indefinitely with materials that can be recycled and reused. If not now, WHEN will we, as a State, make changes in our practices regarding our landfills?

On behalf of the Environmental Caucus, we thank you very much in advance for your support of these important resolutions. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on them.

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Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus