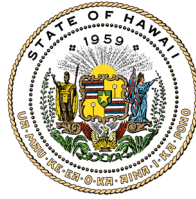


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA ĀINA

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 325  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**DAWN N.S. CHANG**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

**RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

**Testimony of  
DAWN N.S. CHANG  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Thursday, April 10, 2025  
9:00 AM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 183  
ENDORISING AND REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE  
ALOHA+ CHALLENGE THROUGH ITS INTEGRATED APPROACH AND SIX  
AMBITIOUS TARGETS TO BE REACHED BY 2030**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department has made substantial progress on the Aloha+ Challenge goals to manage the State's natural resources and provide a green workforce and education. The State's Watershed Initiative is committed to protecting 30% (253,000 acres) of Hawaii's highest-priority forests by 2030. In 2010, only 10% of these forests were protected. Now, 22% are protected, in large part due to Capital Improvement Project funding provided by the Legislature. The Department is also undertaking the "Holomua Marine Initiative," a community-based planning approach to ensure local knowledge guides marine resource management planning for our state's ocean resources. The Department also tracks progress on other Aloha+ Challenge goals, such as native species protection, invasive species control, and increasing freshwater capacity. With support from the Legislature and other partners, we can continue to make progress on these initiatives that protect the precious natural resources of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

## **Testimony in Support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 183**

ENDORSING AND REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE THROUGH ITS INTEGRATED APPROACH AND SIX AMBITIOUS TARGETS TO BE REACHED BY 2030.

Aloha Chair and Committee member of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection. My name is Athline Clark and I am a Hawaii Green Growth Executive Board member. Am writing to testify in support of SCR 183. Hawaii Green Growth UN Local 2030 Hub has been the synergy behind a unique collaborative effort acting in the role of catalysis to bring together the private sector, government agencies and civil society to work towards a more sustainable and resilient Hawaii. For the past 11 years this organization has played a key role in tracking Hawaii's progress towards meeting our Aloha + Challenge goals. Hawaii is the only State in the Nation to track our progress towards also meeting the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, by providing a voluntary local review to the UN every 2 years on progress made. In 2021, 2023 and again in 2025, Hawaii will have strong representation at the United Nations by reporting out on our progress and being a voice that highlights islands as leaders in innovation, providing a holistic approach to solutions grounded in a legacy of culture and systems thinking.

Through the efforts of Hawaii Green growth UN Local 2030 Hub, seemingly disparate business interests have come together to create solutions and advocate for clean energy, green infrastructure, sustainable business practices, and food security for our Islands. Working together with over 50 entities annually, Hawaii Green Growth has worked among business, government agencies and civil society to collect data on our

progress, share examples of success and hold each other accountable to meeting our shared goals.

In addition to the work with businesses and government agencies, Hawaii Green Growth convenes a student-led group on a quarterly basis that supports educational and leadership pathways for Hawai'i's keiki and haumāna on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) while encouraging a culture of sustainability grounded in mālama 'āina. In the coming weeks they will work with the Counties of Maui and Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu to host youth summits where they will develop clear actionable recommendations for further implementation of Hawaii's Sustainable Development Goals.

On a global scale, the Local2030 Islands Network is the world's first global, island-led peer-to-peer network devoted to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through locally driven solutions. The Network provides a peer-to-peer platform for engagement amongst and between islands to share experiences, spread knowledge, raise ambition, promote solidarity, and identify and implement best practice solutions. Hawaii Green Growth has provided the framework and support to create Pacific Island Green Growth programs with many of our Island neighbors including Guam, Palau, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariannas, and soon in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

I fully endorse the work of Hawaii Green Growth and applaud efforts by the Hawaii State Legislature to reaffirm their commitment to this vital work and that organization has accomplished.

Mahalo

*Athline Clark*



**Testimony on SCR183**  
**Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge**

**April 10, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**Room 325**

The Climate Change and Health Working Group (CCHWG) is a cross-sector collaborative interested in strengthening climate and health resiliency in Hawai'i. CCHWG supports this measure's goal of endorsing and reaffirming support for the Aloha+ Challenge and its six integrated sustainability targets to be reached by 2030.

**Testimony of the Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group**

**In Support of SCR 183**  
**Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee:

The Climate Change and Health Working Group supports SCR183's goal of reinforcing Hawai'i's commitment to the Aloha+ Challenge. By integrating data-driven strategies via the Aloha+ Dashboard, the Challenge advances practical solutions that protect both environmental and human health. Each of the six targets resonates with our mission to build climate resilience and safeguard public health:

The Aloha+ Challenge addresses Clean Energy Transformation, Local Food Production and Consumption, Smart Sustainable Communities, Green Workforce and Education, Solid Waste Reduction, and Natural Resource Management. Each goal has direct and far-reaching impacts on public health. Cleaner energy sources and reduced emissions help prevent respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. Local food systems improve nutrition and food security, lowering risks of diabetes and heart disease. Smart community planning fosters safer, healthier lifestyles and builds resilience against extreme weather events. Environmental education and workforce

initiatives expand job opportunities that address social determinants of health. Improved waste management reduces exposure to toxins and microplastics, which are linked to illnesses such as cancer and reproductive disorders. The protection of coral reefs, forests, and watersheds ensures stable ecosystems that provide essential services such as clean water and flood prevention.

Through the Aloha+ Dashboard and the Voluntary Local Review process, Hawai'i has demonstrated global leadership by aligning these priorities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. By examining progress and gaps, this framework promotes evidence-based solutions that reinforce our responsibility to care for both our people and the environment that sustains us. The six targets collectively shape an inclusive, forward-looking vision of public health, recognizing that climate change is not only an environmental concern but a pressing threat to well-being and overall quality of life for current and future generations.

Meeting the time bound goals of the Aloha+ Challenge is essential to protecting Hawai'i from the impacts of climate change and safeguarding community health and wellbeing. We urge you to support SCR183.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

The Climate Change & Health Working Group



**Hawai'i Green Growth UN Local2030 Hub**

**House Committee on EEP**

**Thursday April 10, 2025**

**9:00am**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 325, and Videoconference**

**In Support**

**S.C.R. 183,, ENDORSING AND REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED  
BY THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE THROUGH ITS INTEGRATED APPROACH AND SIX  
AMBITIOUS TARGETS TO BE REACHED BY 2030.**

The Aloha+ Challenge is Hawaii's statewide commitment to implement *HE NOHONA 'AE'OIA*, a culture of sustainability. This unique model of partnership around a localized framework gathers partners across the public, private, non-profit, academic, and philanthropic sectors to steward community centered and defined goals rooted in local culture and values. Since its inception in 2014, the Aloha+ Challenge has been developed to be a true public good intended to safeguard Hawaii's sustainable development through an accountability Dashboard and community convening around shared language and goals, a champion of people, of our shared values, and of the stories we are proud to tell.

This week alone we are seeing the reach and impact of the Aloha+ Challenge on our island and beyond. Hawaii Green Growth was invited to the 16th Island Conference on Island Sustainability in Guam to co-host the Green Growth Summit on with the Governor of Guam Lou Leon Guerrero, the University of Guam and Guam Green Growth to share the regional connection that our islands - including Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and even our family in Puerto Rico— share through connection to place and culture, and shared worldview through an island systems thinking. The Aloha+ Challenge was called requested by the leadership of these other islands across the Pacific (and beyond) to be a catalyst for how others can localize global targets to their place and context, convene partners, and drive political, social, environmental, and economic progress around ambitious, but necessary, community-driven goals.

Hawaii is represented in Guam by the Hawaii Green Growth leadership team and the SDG Youth Council—while many of the representatives on the Youth Council were toddlers when the Aloha+ Challenge was launched, their enthusiasm and ability to



speak to the values that Aloha+ protects and connects to affirms that it is not only built on Hawaii's deep connection to place and ridge-to-reef thinking that has long contributed to the sustainability of our island home, but that its importance is obvious both to current and future generations, and our young people see themselves in this future and as the guardians and protectors of it.

That is what sustainability is, and that is what a culture of sustainability means - to ensure that our communities are well, safe and prosperous now, and that they will always be in into the future. Aloha+ gives us a common language to discuss this around goals that are rooted in tangible policy, action, island realities, and a cultural worldview. We believe that a public-private partnership and building a true island-wide - and Pacific wide - family is the only way forward.

Mahalo nnui loa for the role you play in supporting this, and thank you for your consideration of SCR 183.

*Hawai'i Green Growth*



**SCR-183**

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 9:47:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/10/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Mae Buscemi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good Day All,

I am writing in support of this bill.

the Aloha+ Challenge has served as a vital framework for measuring the State's progress towards achieving six sustainability goals by 2030: These are all critical items to our survival in the state. We can not depend on outside sources to supplement our food production or education. We must plan to make due for ourselves. Please support these initiatives.

- (1) Clean energy transformation;
- (2) Local food production and consumption;
- (3) Smart sustainable communities;
- (4) Green workforce and education;
- (5) Solid waste reduction; and
- (6) Natural resource management

Sincerely,

Donna Buscemi

96797

**SCR-183**

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:02:22 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/10/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglass Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in STRONG Support of SCR183, which endorses and reaffirms the Legislature's support for the progress achieved by the ALOHA+ CHALLENGE through its integrated approach and six ambitious targets to be reached by 2030. As a recent member of the Voluntary Local Review, I can attest to the outstanding work that the ALOHA+ CHALLENGE is doing in identifying the state's progress in addressing, mitigating, and highlighting work to be done to reach the ambitious goals that the Challenge is targeting for 2030. This effort is providing a vital framework and foundation for the work being done by others in the climate change and sustainable development goals spaces.

I encourage the Committee to support this resolution by moving it to the House of Representatives with a strong recommendation for passage.

very respectfully

Douglass Adams

Hilo

Aloha,

I am Jillian Cristobal Dashboard Coordinator with Hawai'i Green Growth and I stand before you to submit my personal testimony in full support of SCR183. The Aloha+ Challenge was a commitment that I invested in as an Americorps VISTA with the organization and now steward in my current role via our Hawai'i statewide data collaborative and accountability Dashboard. I see the importance firsthand of the integration of these goals and coordination of these stakeholders and how this builds a stronger and more sustainable Hawaii around a shared set of goals. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony before you.

Mahalo!