



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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Friday, April 17, 2026, 10:05 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
SCR 168/SR 159

**REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO
CONVENE A DEMOLITION WASTE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chairs Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) offers comments on SCR 168/SR 159 which requests the OPSD to convene a demolition waste reduction working group.

This effort is both timely and necessary. Hawai'i is facing increasing pressure on our landfills, and construction and demolition waste remains a significant contributor to that burden.

Given the State's recent storms and ongoing disaster recovery efforts, the need to reduce, reuse, and better manage demolition waste is even more urgent. Establishing a coordinated, cross-sector working group to advance deconstruction, material reuse, and circular economy strategies is a strong and appropriate step forward.

OPSD recommends amending SCR 168/SR 159 to include representatives from the State Department of Health Solid & Hazardous Waste Branch and the four (4) county waste management departments, given their direct knowledge of landfill capacities and role in reducing landfill dependency. This would expand the working group from 10 to 15 members, maintaining an odd number to avoid tie votes.

The OPSD also shares strong concerns regarding implementation, while SCR 168/SR 159 places this responsibility on OPSD, the resolution does not provide any appropriation or staffing support to carry out this work.

As currently structured, this would place additional workload on the State Sustainability Branch without dedicated financial resources or staffing, which will significantly limit the effectiveness and timeliness of the working group's efforts.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on SCR 168/SR 159..

SCR-168

Submitted on: 4/15/2026 11:02:00 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/17/2026 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!