



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

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by

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and

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HCR 270 HD1 / HR 229 HD1: REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA GREEN ROOF FEASIBILITY TEAM TO RECOMMEND INCENTIVES THAT MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE TO ENCOURAGE GREEN ROOFING.

Chair Morita, Vice Chair Carroll, and Members of the Committee:

The School of Architecture at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa supports HCR 270 HD1 / HR 229 HD1 and will work collaboratively with the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa Green Roof Feasibility Team to develop incentives that may be adopted specifically by the State to encourage green roof design.

Green roof benefits are understood throughout the world. They have been shown to reduce urban heat island effects, reduce cooling loads, reduce storm water runoff and increase roof life span. Additionally, they improve the visual quality of the environment in which we live. Green roofs require knowledge of architecture, sustainability, engineering and landscape architecture. The quality of our natural and built environment would be greatly enhanced if roof tops were integrated with our beautiful Hawaiian landscape. Additionally, because rooftops are on buildings, it is essential the architectural profession (including professional education) be included in any proposed studies within green roof design.