



# STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,  
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII  
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 702, HONOLULU, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 586-4185  
Email: dbedt.opsd.erp@hawaii.gov

## MINUTES

State of Hawai'i, Environmental Council  
Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2021, 1:30 PM– 3:30 PM  
Online Zoom Meeting

David Y. Ige  
Governor

Chairperson  
Puananionaona Thoene

Vice Chair  
Mary Begier

Members  
Roy Abe  
Stephanie Dunbar-Co  
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom  
Makaala Kaaumoana  
Ian Robin Kaye  
Theresita Kinnaman  
Ron Terry  
Michael Tulang  
N. Mahina Tuteur

### Members Present

Puananionaona Thoene (Chairperson), Mary Begier (Vice-Chairperson), Roy Abe, Dawn Hegger-Nordblom, Makaala Kaaumoana, Robin Kaye, Theresita Kinnaman, Ron Terry

### Members Absent

Stephanie Dunbar-Co, Keith Kawaoka (Acting Director), Robert Parsons, Michael Tulang, Mahina Tuteur

### Staff

Leslie Segundo (Environmental Health Specialist); Kathy Ho (Deputy Attorney General)

### Public

None

Note: **Bolded** items below indicate text from the agenda.

#### 1. **Call to order, roll call and quorum, introductions**

With a quorum of nine members, Chairperson Thoene convened the meeting at 1:37PM.

#### 2. **Update on pending legislation introduced in the 2021 legislative session**

- [http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC\\_Meetings/2021-02-11-EC-OEQC-Bill-Tracking-Log-oeqc.pdf](http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC_Meetings/2021-02-11-EC-OEQC-Bill-Tracking-Log-oeqc.pdf)
- [http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC\\_Meetings/2021-02-11-EC-Proposed-Legislation-EC-as-of-129.pdf](http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC_Meetings/2021-02-11-EC-Proposed-Legislation-EC-as-of-129.pdf)

The Council discussed the following bills to decide which bills the Council will testify on.  
For SB1034 (HB880 - Sunshine Law and boards): EC will not submit comments.

MOTION: Member Kaye moved that the Council submit comments on SB1292 (Exemption on wells).  
Vice-Chairperson Begier seconded. The Council unanimously approved the motion (8-0-0).

MOTION: Member Kaye moved that the Council submit comments on HB361 (SB469 - Supplemental EA in 15 years). Member Terry seconded. Members will draft notes reflecting different points of view as discussed and email to Chairperson Thoene for submittal. The Council unanimously approved the motion (8-0-0).

HB423 (establish environmental protection): EC will not submit comments.

HB696: EC will not submit comments.

HB842 (EIS hub): Chairperson Thoene submitted testimony based on the 2020 approved discussion. The Council will continue to monitor this.

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Begier moved that the Council submit testimony in support of HB901 (roadway exemption). Member Terry seconded. The Council voted on the motion 6 - Yes (Thoene, Abe, Begier, Hegger-Nordblom, Kaye, Terry), 2 - No (Kaaumoana, Kinnaman), 0 – Abstention, but the motion does not pass.

HB1318 (move Sustainability and Environmental Review in OPSD): Chairperson Thoene and Member Kaye as individuals, submitted testimony.

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Begier moved that the Council submit testimony in support of HB1318. Member Kaye seconded. The Council unanimously approved the motion (8-0-0).

MOTION: Member Kaye moved that the Council submit comments in support on HB1350 (environmental justice tool) and to reference the Environmental Council, rather than the Environmental Center. Vice-Chairperson Begier seconded. The Council unanimously approved the motion (8-0-0).

SB351 (EC bill): The Council will continue to support this.

SB469, SB889, SB968, SB1034. SB1055 are companion bills and have already been discussed.

Member Kaye mentioned that SB1277 is a little different from HB1350 and doesn't mention the Environmental Council. The Council will continue to monitor this.

### **3. Action to approve Council testimony on legislation introduced in the 2021 legislative Session**

MOTION: Member Terry moved to authorize Committee Chair Kaye and Chairperson Thoene draft testimony on behalf of the Council and be consistent with approved actions as discussed earlier. Vice-Chairperson Begier seconded. The Council unanimously approved the motion (8-0-0).

Mr. Segundo mentioned that OEQC are tracking the same bills as the Council except for the Sunshine Law bills.

Vice-Chairperson Begier left the meeting at 2:31PM.

There was general discussion among the members regarding legislative process this session. Members expressed frustrations with testimonies being marked as late, Zoom connectivity, and overall, perhaps people don't know what each agency does or is responsible for.

Member Tuteur joined at 2:41PM. Chairperson Thoene gave a summary on the discussed bills.

### **4. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 1:30 – 3:30 pm**

Exemption, I&O, Legislative, and Rules Committees should be meeting. Tomorrow is deadline to submit contacts to Mr. Segundo for the survey.

Environmental Council Special Meeting  
Tuesday, February 11, 2021

**5. Public Forum**

None

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM.