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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, February 26, 2021
9:30 AM
Via Videoconference

in consideration of
SB 1054, SD1
RELATING TO THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) **strongly supports** Administration Bill, SB 1054, SD1, which would amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 201-18 to allow the use of funds in the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (HBCRLF) to be used for cleanup grants and brownfields site assessments, in addition to cleanup loans. The HBCRLF Program—capitalized by a \$2 million Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)—is administered by OP.

This measure is needed to authorize and take advantage of expanded use of HBCRLF funds, which EPA provided under a closeout agreement for the HBCRLF grant. Broadening the use of funds for cleanup grants and site assessments will result in more effective and timely use of the funds, because the need for funds for cleanup grants and site assessments is high.

As the program administrator of the HBCRLF Program, OP has identified with its EPA and Department of Health partners, several potential projects seeking site assessment and/or cleanup grant funds for the restoration and reuse of underutilized, contaminated properties that are slated for redevelopment for affordable housing and community open space and park enhancements. This measure would enable use of the funds for such projects and make more productive use of HBCRLF funds to advance eligible public and non-profit projects of community benefit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
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MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

CHUNG I. CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, February 26, 2021
9:30 AM
Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SB 1054, SD1
RELATING TO THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports Administration Bill, SB 1054, SD1, which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 201-18 to allow the use of funds in the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (HBCRLF) to be used for cleanup grants and brownfields site assessments. The HBCRLF Program was capitalized with a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and is administered by the Office of Planning (OP).

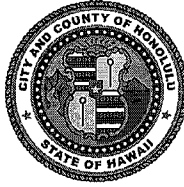
This measure is needed to authorize use of HBCRLF funds—currently limited to loans—for cleanup grants and site assessments, which are allowed under the EPA closeout agreement with DBEDT for the HBCRLF grant. Broadening the use of funds for cleanup grants and site assessments will result in more effective and timely use of the funds, and facilitate reuse of underutilized, contaminated properties slated for redevelopment for affordable housing and community open space and park enhancements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DAWN TAKEUCHI APUNA
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EUGENE H. TAKAHASHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

**Subject: Senate Bill No. 1054, SD 1
Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund**

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **supports** Senate Bill No. 1054, SD 1, which would enable use of the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund for loans and sub-grants to eligible entities for brownfields site assessments, cleanup activities of contaminated sites, and site monitoring activities necessary to determine the effectiveness of a cleanup.

This measure would allow the City and County of Honolulu to receive funding to support cleanup activities for public benefit, such as to create a new shoreline park envisioned on contaminated property along the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail. The DPP manages the City's brownfields assessment grant, which cannot be used for cleanup activities, and has identified a number of potential brownfields sites for cleanup, in close coordination with State agencies. These sites could potentially accommodate park and open space, as well as affordable housing.

Should you have any questions, please contact Harrison Rue, Community Building and Transit-Oriented Development Administrator, at 768-8294.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Uchida".

Dean Uchida
Director Designate