



Written Testimony before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 (10:00 am)

**RE: SCR186 DESIGNATING APRIL AS TREE AWARENESS MONTH  
IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.**

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

Trees for Honolulu's Future is a nonprofit organization with a vision for a tree-filled island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change.

We support the above-referenced resolution, which designates the entire month of April as tree awareness month in Hawaii.

The resolution does a good job in citing the multiple benefits of trees that are well documented by research and noted in the resolution. Sadly though, Honolulu has been losing urban tree canopy over the past years so any and steps that can help reverse this concerning trend are welcomed.

We do note that Arbor Day in Hawaii is in November to match with the best time to plant in the islands; however, in talking with the drafters of this resolution we understand that the intent in designating the month of April to raise awareness is to stay away from the busy Thanksgiving/Holiday Season, which is certainly understandable. To us, every day and every month should be for tree awareness and promotion, so we don't have a position on when to designate such.

We urge this Committee to approve this resolution and send to the next Committee for action.

Thank you,

Daniel Dinell, President

**HONOLULU is HOT TREES are COOL**

Visit us: [www.TreesForHonolulu.org](http://www.TreesForHonolulu.org) Contact us: [info@TreesForHonolulu.org](mailto:info@TreesForHonolulu.org) Voice/Fax/Text: 808-707-6353  
P.O. Box 12051, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828

**SCR-186-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:15:43 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anna Lauren Lerner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

4/5/21

To: Chair Lowen and Members of the EEP Committee

From: Anna Lauren Lerner, Punahou Sustainability Club

SUBJECT: SCR 186 - DESIGNATING APRIL AS TREE AWARENESS MONTH

Dear Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee,

I submit testimony in strong support of SCR186 designating April as Tree Awareness Month. As stated by the Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife Forestry Programs, healthy trees equal healthy communities, better business, healthy people, energy cost savings, reef protection and watershed protection. While temperatures may be comfortable now, in a few short months they will continue to break records in sweltering heat during summer. We need trees.

Thank you for your support of this measure and for your time in hearing my testimony.

**SCR-186-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 7:33:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Committee,

Hello! My name is Robert Brown, and I am a 7th grader at Punahou school, I like to play under a tree a lot. I am in strong support of SCR186/SR151, Designating April as Tree Awareness Month. I know that trees are an important tool to combat climate change, reduce society's carbon footprint, and help communities become healthier. We have a tree in our backyard. It gives us shade, it brings down the temperature, and when we are playing under my tree, we have a nice, cool, place to play. We really appreciate you if you pass this measure.

Thank you,

Robert Brown