

January 30, 2023

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair  
Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Wednesday, February 1  
1:00pm  
via Video Conference



RE: **SB635** GREEN AMENDMENT (**STRONG SUPPORT**)

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards & Committee Members,

Chamber of Sustainable Commerce testifies in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB635. As business owners who believe we can strengthen our economy without hurting employees, consumers, communities or the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of passing SB635, which proposes a constitutional amendment to ensure that the inherent and inalienable right of the people, including future generations, to clean water and air, a healthful environment and climate, healthy native ecosystems, and beaches, shall be protected and shall not be infringed.

The language in this bill is clear and unambiguous and will have no adverse affects on the profitability of businesses that do not contaminate our clean water and air, or harm the health of our environment which their workers and consumers rely on. Why would a business want to harm its consumers or its workforce? That would be an unsustainable business model and result in reduced profitability. *(See The Lorax; but contrast companies that pursue secondary profitability by selling the cure or prophylactic to the original harm they caused.)*

The threat of tourism industry "annihilation", that was cited in testimony in opposition to the 2022 version of this bill, is ironic hyperbole. Contaminating our fresh water aquifer with jet fuel, having high fecal bacteria counts in the near shore waters of some of our most beautiful beaches, and soil contamination and reef-killing runoff caused by agri-chemical corporations would do more to annihilate tourism than constitutionally protecting our environment.

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**Hawaii  
Legislative  
Council**

Maile Meyer  
Na Mea Hawaii  
Honolulu

Russel Rudderman  
Island Naturals  
Hilo / Kona

Tina Wildberger  
Kihei Ice  
Maui

Joell Edwards  
Wainiha Country Market  
Kauai

Kim Coco Iwamoto  
AQuA Rentals, LLC  
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