

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1104

**MESSAGE FROM
U.S. SENATOR MAZIE K. HIRONO**

**In honor of
Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Summit for Sustainable
Development**

June 24, 2017

Aloha and welcome to everyone attending the 2017 Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Summit for Sustainable Development held in Martha's Vineyard.

The Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development offers a valuable opportunity for young leaders from Hawaii and around the world to come together and share their vision for a sustainable future. I commend this year's delegates, Benjamin Zingg, Macartney Biegler, Tania duPont, Elijah Anakelea-Buckley, and Jacqueline Noborikawa on their selection to represent the State of Hawaii at this prestigious event.

Now, it is more important than ever before that we work together to protect our fragile island habitats from outside threats such as climate change. You all are the next generation and it will take your creativity and foresight to ensure that our society grows and develops in a way that also protects our aina. Whether it's increasing our use of renewable energy, protecting our coral from rising ocean temperatures, or growing more local food, I know bright students such as yourselves are up to the challenge of figuring out how we can become more sustainable. As you meet this week, please know that I remain committed to building a more sustainable future for Hawaii and our nation. I look forward to seeing the innovative ideas and solutions that arise from this forum.

Mahalo to the Stone Soup Leadership Institute and everyone who made this important program possible. My best wishes for an enjoyable and productive forum.

Sincerely,


Mazie K. Hirono

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