

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII

Testimony of
JACQUELINE KOZAK THIEL
State Sustainability Coordinator

Before the House Committees on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Thursday February 6, 2014
8:40 am
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1714
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

House Bill 1714 proposes to address climate change impacts in Hawaii with an integrated approach to support research, planning and coordination. **The State Sustainability Coordinator strongly supports this measure and the amendments proposed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) in their testimony.**

The proposed amendments align with the overall approach of the bill and build on existing efforts to focus resources and address immediate needs for climate change adaptation in Hawaii.

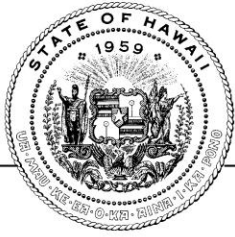
DLNR believes that sea level rise (SLR) is a critical first step of the long-term Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative. As an island state, Hawaii is especially vulnerable to the impacts of SLR. SLR is recognized as a priority, high-risk climate change impact in Senate Bill 2344 and House Bill 1714. It is urgent to assess and adapt to the SLR projections that will have impacts on multiple sectors and communities as part of an overall climate change adaptation strategy.

By first focusing on SLR, we can create a framework that can be used to address other climate change impacts that considers the Hawaii Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines (Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012), localized and site-specific information, policy recommendations, and economic implications for long-range planning and implementation.

While the State Sustainability Coordinator is currently a temporary position within DLNR, tasking DLNR and the Office of Planning (OP) with coordinating the studies and delivering the reports will solidify institutionalized relationships and leverage additional assistance from the State Sustainability Coordinator position.

The Governor reaffirmed the importance of this initiative in his State of the State and will continue to direct interagency collaboration and prioritization for climate change adaptation. DLNR and OP have been spearheading climate change adaptation efforts and are well-positioned to lead the interagency climate initiatives.

The State Sustainability Coordinator deeply appreciates the majority support for the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure that invests in strategic action to address the paramount challenge of climate change for present and future generations.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thursday, February 6, 2014
8:40 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 1714
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the house majority caucus bill HB 1714 (companion bill SB 2344 - joint majority package), provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget, and offers the following comments for your consideration.

We are grateful that HB 1714 appropriates funds for staffing and resources related to OP's duties, enumerated therein; however, we urge you to consider augmenting the appropriated sum of \$110,000 to accurately reflect the revenues required to fund "two full time equivalent (FTE) positions, and resources to carry out the mission of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii." See Section 4.

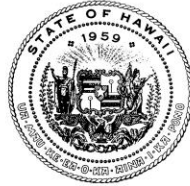
In particular, OP requests that there be appropriated, at minimum, \$118,000 to cover the starting salaries of two Planner VIs (\$57,720 each/annually) and associated overhead (2%), based on the current salary schedule for Collective Bargaining Unit 13-SR26 as of January 1, 2014. See *Compensation Plans for the State of Hawaii* at <http://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Complan-010114.pdf>. In addition, OP also requests that supplementary funding be appropriated to provide, on a contractual basis, state and county agencies with technical assistance beyond that of the Planner VIs' expertise, including, but not limited to, scientific evaluation necessary to inform climate change adaptation planning.

Given the stated budget requests, OP urges you to consider the following amendment to page 17, lines 3 through 11:

“SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of [\$110,000] \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the office of planning with staffing including two full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, and resources to carry out the mission of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii.” (Deletions are bracketed. Additions are double underscored).

Lastly, OP offers a minor technical amendment to the language on page 3, lines 5 through 7. We recommend the following changes: “Hawaii is one of the last coastal states that has yet to adopt a statewide climate adaptation plan, yet is among the most vulnerable.” (Deletions are bracketed. Additions are double underscored).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

H.B. 1714, RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Acting Director of Health

February 6, 2014
8:40 a.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health **SUPPORTS** this measure because of the
2 coordinated strategy it sets forth to address the effects of climate change in Hawaii. However, the
3 Department requests that it be added to the list of Interagency Climate Council members described in
4 section (d) of the new chapter on the Council in Section 2 of the measure.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** The measure requests an \$110,000 appropriation out of the General Fund for
6 fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the Office of Planning with staff and resources to assist with planning
7 and policy-making. It also requests \$400,000 in General Funds to enable the State Sustainability
8 Coordinator to research and develop a coordinated, multidisciplinary climate change study, and \$50,000
9 for the Interagency Climate Council to carry out its duties.

10 **Purpose and Justification:** Given the effects of climate change on the people of Hawaii and on the
11 environment as a whole, the Department supports this measure because of its recognition of the
12 unprecedented challenges that climate change presents to the State's sustainability, security, and
13 economy and the need for planning to adapt to and address these challenges. The measure's creation of
14 the Interagency Climate Council is an important step towards formulating a coordinated climate change

1 strategy, and the Department supports the creation of the Council. However, it requests that the Director
2 of the Department of Health (or Director's designee) be included in the list of members set forth in
3 section (d) of the "Interagency Climate Council" chapter described in Section 2 of the measure.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

HB1714, RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

**Testimony of Herman Tuiolosega
Office of Environmental Quality Control**

**February 6, 2014
8:40 A.M.**

1 **Office's Position:** The office of environmental quality control (OEQC) supports HB1714,
2 relating to climate change.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None

4 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure creates an interagency climate council to address the
5 effects of climate change through 2050 to protect the State's economy. The adverse impacts of
6 sea level rise and climate changes are manifested by the extreme weather patterns seen every
7 year across the U.S. and the Pacific Islands Region: extreme adverse cold weather patterns on the
8 Mainland; the high casualty and devastation of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines last year; and
9 extreme beach erosion at Rocky Point on the North Shore last month. These examples highlight
10 the gravity of the problem and the importance of addressing climate change impacts.

11 Therefore, OEQC supports this measure urges your committee to pass HB1714.

12 Thank you.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 8:40 AM
By
Charles H. Fletcher, Associate Dean
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1714 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen, and Members of the House Committee assembled:

The University of Hawai'i is in favor of HB 1714, which establishes an interagency climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050.

Climate change has become a dangerous, socially disruptive reality that threatens the future sustainability of life in the Hawaiian Islands. By developing an interagency climate council to implement a general state policy to address climate change, you will be taking a strong step toward achieving maximum protection of public health and safety as well as protection of natural resources for future generations.

I suggest that the effort place an initial focus on sea level rise as the most urgent impact for us to address while building a framework of research, planning and coordination to address other impacts. The focus on SLR also fulfills the intent of HB1512, which needs to be coordinated with this legislation.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committees on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS**

**Thursday February 6, 2014
8:40 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1714
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports House Bill 1714 which proposes to “address the effects of climate change through 2050...by establishing a statewide climate adaptation plan that will:

- (1) Assess the major areas of expected climate impacts in Hawaii;
- (2) Create a model framework for assisting communities in developing recommendations for climate adaptation based on site specific studies;
- (3) Develop short and long term plans and actionable policy recommendations to ensure the state and counties will address the impacts of climate change;
- (4) Establish an interagency climate council (ICC) to facilitate ongoing coordination among state departments, counties, federal agencies, and partners; and
- (5) Update expected impacts and adaptation policies every five years, as necessary.”

The State Sustainability Coordinator would develop a climate change impact report (Report) by December 31, 2015. House bill 1714 recommends that the Report include the following elements:

- (1) Identification of the major areas of climate change impact affecting the state and counties through 2050;
- (2) Impact expectations based on the latest scientific research for each issue area through 2050;
- (3) Identification of economic ramifications of major climate impacts;

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KIAAINA
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

- (4) Analysis of climate change adaptation planning in other jurisdictions relevant to Hawaii; and
- (5) A model framework for assisting communities in developing recommendations for climate adaptation based on site specific studies;

House bill 1714 initially establishes the ICC in the Office of the Governor, but transitions it to the Department on January 1, 2018. The ICC would be headed by the Governor's Sustainability Coordinator. The proposed bill also tasks the Office of Planning (OP) to develop strategic climate adaption plans and provide planning and policy guidance and assistance to the ICC and state and county agencies regarding climate change. It appropriates \$110,000 for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the OP with staffing, \$400,000 to enable the Sustainability Coordinator to do a climate change study, and \$50,000 for the ICC.

This legislation endeavors to implement climate change adaption plans across the State. However, we recommend an amended bill based on the following.

As you are aware, it is the mission of the Department to manage public lands, water resources, ocean resources, navigable streams, and coastal areas. The Department is very much at the forefront of climate adaptation through efforts such as our "Rain Follows the Forest" initiative to directly address the effects of climate change (e.g. precipitation, species diversity) on fresh water resources, and species diversity. Thus, we thank the legislature for recognizing the Department as a major climate change stakeholder, and we accept leadership on this critical initiative.

If the Department is going to be a leader in this critical campaign, we want to help define the scope of the overall climate change adaptation initiative, in order to ensure the optimal utilization of our limited resources, expertise, and ongoing efforts.

Towards this end, the Department believes we should initially focus on the effects of sea level rise (SLR). By focusing on SLR, we can effectively address the best understood and most urgent climate-related vulnerabilities in the state while building a solid framework for research, planning and interagency coordination to address other major areas of climate change impacts through a long-term process.

Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, established climate change adaptation priority guidelines. The Governor's plan, A New Day in Hawaii also recognizes the importance of planning for adapting to climate change and SLR. The 2013 Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) also identifies climate change and SLR as major priority areas. The Department feels that these efforts have established a strong foundation and impetus for developing an over-arching climate change adaptation plan, but we also feel that it is not too soon to begin focusing our limited resources on actionable projects for adaptation to climate-related hazards within appropriate authorities and in areas that are most relevant and potentially devastating for Hawaii, such as SLR.

Hawaii sea level has risen 6 inches over the past century. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Assessment Report 5, at the current rate of greenhouse gas production, global mean sea level is likely to rise a mean of 1 foot by mid-century and over 2 feet by the end of the century. The National Science Foundation, the United States Army Corps of Engineers,

and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predict the possibility of even higher levels by the end of the century.

The impacts of accelerated SLR include an increase in an already dominant trend of coastal erosion, increased severity and frequency of flooding events by heavy rains and large waves, and increased vulnerability to tsunami and hurricane damage. The potential consequences of SLR for Hawaii are severe compared to many other coastal states, as the majority of our population base and public infrastructure exist on low-lying coastal plains which are highly susceptible to coastal hazards. The State should put particular effort in SLR adaption, as there is consensus within the scientific community that rates of SLR will continue to accelerate in the coming decades.

Scientific research is beginning to improve our understanding and ability to predict risks and vulnerabilities associated with SLR. Historical shoreline change maps have been completed identifying beaches suffering the greatest historical erosion and also most prone to future erosion. Detailed maps of SLR flood zones have already been completed for Hawaii by University of Hawaii (UH) researchers and NOAA. The Department is currently working with UH to develop maps of predicted coastal erosion hazard areas incorporating a range of SLR scenarios to aid in identifying natural resources, coastal lands, property and infrastructure that are vulnerable to coastal erosion and flooding over the next century. However, state and county agencies still lack the localized planning tools they need to make regulatory decisions related to SLR.

We recommend that the proposed legislation be amended to initially focus on SLR in the following ways:

1. Establish an Interagency Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Committee (SLRVAC) to initially develop a SLR Vulnerability and Adaption Report for Hawaii through the year 2100. The SLRVAC may consist of the same members proposed in House Bill 1714;
2. Designate the Department and OP as the lead agencies, with administration of the SLRVAC located within the Chairperson's Office of the Department;
3. The SLRVAC will do the following:
 - (a) Coordinate with the scientific and planning members to identify information/budget needs;
 - (b) Facilitate mapping of sea level rise and coastal erosion hazard areas for a range of climate scenarios;
 - (c) Identify public and private facilities and natural resources vulnerable to erosion and flooding with increasing sea level rise;
 - (d) Solicit public input on planning and policy options to develop adaptation plans for sea level rise –related impacts;
 - (e) Develop recommendations for planning, management, and adaptation for hazards associated with increasing sea level rise; and

- (f) Coordinate SLR planning among state, county, and federal agencies with broader climate change and natural hazard issues in Hawaii, and continue to work with the Office of Planning to coordinate climate change adaptation planning through Act 286 and the ORMP.
- 4. Appropriate \$500,000 for fiscal year 2014-2015 to enable the Department/OP to develop a SLR adaptation plan for Hawaii; and
- 5. Appropriate a sum of money as necessary to provide OP and the Department each with one full-time equivalent (FTE) position to carry-out the mission of the Hawaii Climate Change Adaptation Initiation Act;
- 5. Direct the Department to deliver an Interim SLR Vulnerability and Adaptation Report as the first component of the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act by December 31, 2015 and a final report by December 31, 2018.

We re-iterate that by initially focusing on SLR, we can effectively address the best understood and most urgent climate-related vulnerabilities in the state while building a solid framework for research, planning and interagency coordination to address other major areas of climate change impacts through a long-term process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 8:40 a.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 325**

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1714 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Lee and Vice Chair Thielen and members of the committee:

The Chamber **supports** the intent of H.B. 1714 which is intended to address climate change adaptation by creating a new government entity, the interagency climate council, and tasking the head of this new entity, the sustainability coordinator, with creating initial reports identifying expected climate impacts. The bill also tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator. The bill establishes a goal of having the interagency climate council of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

While we understand the need to address concerns regarding climate change, we believe that the approach should be structured around two narrow goals.

The first would be to establish the facts of what impacts climate change may have on our state. There would be a need to differentiate between normal coastal erosion and sea level rise caused by climate change. Once the "science" is understood, the next question would be to project the rate or rates at which both processes are expected to occur over time. This approach and methodology should provide a range of different outcomes depending on certain established scientific variables.

The second goal would be to take the "science" and develop public policies based on mitigating impacts identified from the science. These policies should establish certain milestones which would trigger policy implementation.

The sheer scope and magnitude of this effort should involve more than government officials as there are significant sections of Hawaii's coastline that are privately owned. Furthermore, much of the State's valuable visitor industry infrastructure and amenities are located along a narrow band along the State's coastline.

Rather than create another layer of government, it may be prudent to engage in a discussion on the "Science" with educators and researchers from the University of Hawaii and other institutions that may have research conducted or in process on the science of climate change. The policy discussions should occur after the science has been obtained.

We would encourage the legislature to consider using existing resources supplemented with private consultants and/or research grants to address the first two phases discussed earlier as an alternative to immediately creating another government entity. Once the science and policies have been identified and developed, the legislature will be in a better position to identify the focus, staffing and funding levels for a new entity to implement or oversee the implementations of the policy recommendations, as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

BIA-HAWAII

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THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Thursday, February 6, 2014

8:40 a.m.

State Capitol - Conference Room 325

RE: H.B. 1714, RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Dear Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Thielen, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the Voice of the Construction Industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-HAWAII **supports the intent** of H.B. 1714, which is intended to address climate change adaptation by creating a new government entity, the interagency climate council and tasking the head of this new entity, the sustainability coordinator, with creating initial reports identifying expected climate impacts. The bill also tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator. The bill establishes a goal of having the interagency climate council of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050.

While we understand the need to address concerns regarding climate change, we believe that the approach should be structured around two narrow goals:

- 1) Establish the facts of what impacts climate change may have on our state. There would be a need to differentiate between normal coastal erosion and sea level rise caused by climate change.
- 2) Once the "science" is understood, the next question would be to project the rate or rates at which both processes are expected to occur over time. This approach and methodology should provide a range of different outcomes depending on certain established scientific variables.
- 3) Take the "science" and develop public policies based on mitigating impacts identified from the science. These policies should establish certain milestones which would trigger policy implementation.

The sheer scope and magnitude of this effort should involve more than government officials as there are significant sections of Hawaii's coastline that are privately owned. Furthermore, much of the State's valuable visitor industry infrastructure and amenities are located along a narrow band along the State's coastline.

Rather than create another layer of government, it may be prudent to engage in a discussion on the "Science" with educators and researchers from the University of Hawaii and other institutions that may have research conducted or in process on the science of climate change. The policy discussions should occur after the science has been obtained.

We would encourage the legislature to consider using existing resources supplemented with private consultants and/or research grants to address the first two phases discussed earlier as an alternative to immediately creating another government entity. Once the science and policies have been identified and developed, the legislature will be in a better position to identify the focus, staffing and funding levels for a new entity to implement or oversee the implementations of the policy recommendations, as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 1714 Relating to Climate Change
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Thursday, February 6, 2014, 8:40AM, Room 325

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 1714 and its proposed climate change policy, coordination and adaptation planning actions.

Climate change caused by burning fossil fuels is an imminent and unprecedented threat to every person in Hawai'i. It is our responsibility to do what we can and what is necessary reduce our own carbon emissions, however small on a global scale, to contribute to the worldwide effort needed to mitigate the growing effects of climate change.

Even if we drastically reduce CO₂ emissions now, however, we will still feel certain effects of climate change. In Hawai'i, science indicates that this will likely include:

- More frequent and more severe storms that can increase runoff and siltation;
- Overall, less rainfall and therefore less fresh water;
- Higher temperatures that affect watershed and agricultural health, while being beneficial to invasive species;
- Sea level rise and high waves that will harm coastal areas and groundwater systems;
- Ocean acidification that will inhibit the growth of protective coral reefs.

In response, we must plan and implement mitigative and adaptive measures to ensure the resilience of our natural and human systems. Protecting and enhancing the health and function of our forested watersheds as proposed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources is one critically important initiative. Healthy Hawaiian forests that are not overrun by invasive species act like a sponge, collecting rain and moisture from passing clouds, slowly delivering fresh water into streams and aquifers, absorbing greenhouse gases, and reducing runoff and siltation into near shore waters during storm events. Likewise, investing in local energy and agriculture security are essential components of building self-reliance and resilience here in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. It's important to coordinate efforts such as these and others in a comprehensive climate change response and adaption plan.

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HB1714

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for EEP on Feb 6, 2014 08:40AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB1714

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for EEP on Feb 6, 2014 08:40AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB1714

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for EEP on Feb 6, 2014 08:40AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yoshio Akaha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

Submitted by
Shannon Wood, *President*
Windward Ahupua`a Alliance

P.O. Box 6366

Kane`ohe, HI 96744

Voicemail: [808/247-6366](tel:8082476366); Cellular: [808/223-4481](tel:8082234481) or [808/224-4496](tel:8082244496) (personal)

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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Rep. Cliff Tsuji, Chair

Rep. Gene Ward, Vice Chair

8:40 am

Thursday, February 6, 2014

Conference Room 325

HB 1714 - RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Comments & Proposed Amendments

I am Shannon Wood, the co-founder and president of the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a 501c3 Hawai`i non-profit corporation which was established in July, 2002, to create the Ko`olau Greenbelt & Heritage Trails System to restore, protect & provide public access to the *mauka* lands on the Windward side of O`ahu along the base of *Na Ko`olau* as well as to support locally-owned sustainable economic activities in the more developed areas. Its mandate, however, has greatly expanded over the past eleven-plus years well beyond these important regional issues.

In addition to planning how & where we will live, work & play, *WAA* also advocates on matters as diverse as developing new waste management programs; setting long-term watershed protection policies based upon *ahupua`a* concepts; creating locally-owned "green" economic development opportunities; supporting renewable energy standards to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and mitigating the impacts of global warming & rising sea levels around the world by working on public policy changes at all three levels of government.

I began working on climate change/global warming issues back in 1998. By 2006, I was actively involved in advocacy, legal, and scientific climate change issues not

only here in Hawai'i but also nationally after becoming a member of Al Gore's **CLIMATE PROJECT** team.

In 2008, I started working with legislators to establish a **Climate Change Task Force** which included a significant number of non-governmental members with strong professional/educational experience. In 2009, the bill was sent up to *Governor Lingle*, but she vetoed it. In a special session in July, 2009, the **Legislature** overrode her veto so it became **ACT 20 - 2009 Special Session**; however, she refused to release the funding so **ACT 20 - 2009 Special Session** died in FY 2011.

I tried to get similar legislation passed two years ago, but it was deferred because the **Legislature** had decided to take a different approach to addressing climate change issues.

In early 2011, I became actively involved with a group of NGOs based in Washington, D.C. and New York working on national & international climate change issues. Over time, I became part of the **Pacific Ocean** sub-group.

Here are my concerns with regards to **HB 1714**:

1. Too many members who do not have the necessary education/experience to understand the impacts of climate change and to address them with respect to their "day job";
2. Too many bureaucrats who just love sitting around a table talking but don't want to actually go out to educate & inform the public - especially under the age of 40 - and legislators;
3. Not enough scientists and policy advocates;
4. Not bringing in professionals who are working outside of Hawai'i;
5. Not updating the dates when things are going to go out of control;
6. The negative impacts due to changes in the state & county administrations.

Finally, There are at least ten people here in Hawai'i who are either involved with an **NGO** or are working directly on climate change issues as part of their "day job" who should be included in the legislation - not by name but by their work.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my concerns. I

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
And
House Committee on Economic Development & Business

LATE

Thursday, February 06, 2014; 8:40 am
By

J. Kenneth Grace

HB 1714 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chairs Lee and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Thielen and Ward, and members of the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection, and on Economic Development & Business, thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for HB 1714, which addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the sustainability coordinator to create initial reports identifying expected climate impacts; tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator; establishes an interagency climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050; and appropriates funds for staffing and resources for these purposes.

My name is J. Kenneth Grace, and I am the Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Research in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am providing personal testimony today on HB 1714.

Climate change is projected to have significant impacts on island states. Hawai'i has already experienced six years of drought, which has had a serious negative impact on the livestock sector of our diversified agricultural economy. These drought conditions are projected to increase in frequency and duration; average temperatures are projected to increase; and rising seas will increase shoreline erosion problems, with concomitant negative effects on fishing and aquaculture and other shoreline resources, and increasing salinity in near-shore agricultural systems. Impact of drought and increasing temperatures on watersheds and forestry activities are other consequences of climate change that demand preparation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of HB 1714.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

February 6, 2014, 8:40 A.M.
(*Testimony is 2 pages long*)

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1741
WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

Aloha Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, with over 12,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, **supports** HB 1714. This measure establishes a resiliency plan for the State of Hawai'i and creates an interagency council with the function of implementing this plan.

Global climate change threatens Hawai'i with stronger hurricanes, prolonged drought, shifting

weather patterns, warmer temperatures, shifting micro-climates, increased spread of invasive species, and saltwater intrusion into Hawai'i's aquifers. University of Hawai'i experts have demonstrated that a one meter rise in sea level—a change that is possible within the next 50 years—would inundate much of Hawai'i's coastline, including its beaches, the world renowned Waikiki resort area, the Honolulu International Airport's reef runway, the majority of Hawai'i's wastewater treatment facilities, many historic sites, and many populated areas, including lands up to a mile away from the existing shoreline in parts of Honolulu. The image above demonstrates the extent of flooding through the Waikiki-Moiliili-McCully areas that would likely be caused by a one-meter rise in sea level.



Plainly, as we move forward, it will be necessary to examine and understand how Hawai'i will be impacted by climate change. Hawai'i is already several years behind many other states in this type of planning.

Recognizing that every measure can be improved, we suggest looking at ways to incorporate a broader public dialogue. Requiring the interagency council to hold publicly noticed meetings and encouraging regular reporting might ensure that the public is involved, make sure the appropriate topics are being addressed, and that this council is held accountable for achieving its mission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

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NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

AMENDED
Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thursday, February 6, 2014
8:40 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 1714
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the house majority caucus bill HB 1714 (companion bill SB 2344 - joint majority package), so long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

This testimony is generally consistent with the testimony we submitted previously; however, we now provide specific recommended amendments for the Committee's consideration. These amendments we developed in consultation with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Governor's Sustainability Coordinator, and from discussions with Representative Chris Lee and Senator Mike Gabbard (as it relates to companion bill SB 2344).

Attached for your use and consideration are the following documents (1) a clean copy of the bill with recommended changes, and (2) a redlined copy with recommended changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act. The legislature finds that climate change is the paramount challenge of this century, posing both an urgent and long-term threat to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life.

The 2012 Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment found that throughout the Pacific warmer and drier conditions will decrease fresh water supplies. Rising sea levels, exacerbated by storms, will increase coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal ecosystems and infrastructure and affecting agriculture, tourism, military bases, and other industries. Higher sea-surface temperatures will increase coral bleaching, leading to coral death and habitat loss. Increasing ocean acidification will have negative consequences for the entire marine ecosystem. In the long term, open-ocean fisheries will decline. Rising temperatures, and in some areas reduced rainfall, will increase the risk of extinctions. Threats to the traditional lifestyles of indigenous communities may include destruction of coastal artifacts and structures and reduced availability of traditional food sources and subsistence fisheries, which will make it difficult for Pacific Island communities to sustain their connection with a defined place and their unique set of customs, beliefs, and languages.

The legislature further finds that beach erosion, drought, and rising temperature are already having measurable impacts on Hawaii and are expected to accelerate in the years to come. With beaches continuing to erode, rain continuing to diminish, and sea levels projected to rise one foot by 2050 and three feet by 2100, Hawaii is highly vulnerable.

In 2012, the legislature enacted Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, creating Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines encouraging collaboration to address climate change and recognizing that it will impact the following: agriculture; conservation lands; coastal and

§ -2 Interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established, an interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee that shall be placed within the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes only.

(b) Coordination of the committee shall be headed by the chairperson of the department, or his designee.

The committee shall:

- (1) Develop a sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that contains the following:
 - (A) Identification of the major areas of sea level rise impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;
 - (B) Identification of expected sea level rise impacts based on the latest scientific research for each area through 2050;
 - (C) Identification of economic ramifications of sea level rise;
 - (D) Identification of applicable federal laws, policies, or programs that impact affected areas; and
 - (E) Recommendations for planning, management, and adaptation for hazards associated with increasing sea level rise.

The report shall be made publicly available pursuant to this paragraph no later than December 31, 2017, and shall be updated every five years.

- (c) The committee shall include the following members:
 - (1) The chairs of the standing committees of the legislature with subject matter encompassing environmental protection and land use;
 - (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural resources or the chairperson's designee;
 - (3) The director of business, economic development, and tourism or the director's designee;
 - (4) The director of the office of planning or the director's designee;
 - (5) The chairperson of the board of directors of the Hawaii tourism authority or the chairperson's designee;
 - (6) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the chairperson's designee;
 - (7) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian affairs or the officer's designee;
 - (8) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission or the chairperson's designee;
 - (9) The director of transportation or the director's designee;
 - (10) The director of health or the director's designee;
 - (11) The adjutant general or the adjutant general's designee; and
 - (12) The chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee;
 - (13) Directors of each of the county planning departments, or their designees; and
 - (14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.

- (4) Statewide planning and geographic information system. Collecting, integrating, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating various forms of data and information, including geospatial data and information, to further effective state planning, policy analysis and development, and delivery of government services by:
 - (A) Collecting, assembling, organizing, evaluating, and classifying existing geospatial and non-geospatial data and performing necessary basic research, conversions, and integration to provide a common database for governmental planning and geospatial analyses by state agencies;
 - (B) Planning, coordinating, and maintaining a comprehensive, shared statewide planning and geographic information system and associated geospatial database. The office shall be the lead agency responsible for coordinating the maintenance of the multi-agency, statewide planning and geographic information system and coordinating, collecting, integrating, and disseminating geospatial data sets that are used to support a variety of state agency applications and other spatial data analyses to enhance decision-making. The office shall promote and encourage free and open data sharing among and between all government agencies. To ensure the maintenance of a comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date geospatial data resource that can be drawn upon for decision-making related to essential public policy issues such as land use planning, resource management, homeland security, and the overall health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's citizens, and to avoid redundant data development efforts, state agencies shall provide to the shared system either their respective geospatial databases or, at a minimum, especially in cases of secure or confidential data sets that cannot be shared or must be restricted, metadata describing existing geospatial data. In cases where agencies provide restricted data, the office of planning shall ensure the security of that data; and
 - (C) Maintaining a centralized depository of state and national planning references;
- (5) Land use planning. Developing and presenting the position of the State in all boundary change petitions and proceedings before the land use commission, assisting state agencies in the development and submittal of petitions for land use district boundary amendments, and conducting periodic reviews of the classification and districting of all lands in the State, as specified in chapter 205;
- (6) Coastal and ocean policy management. Carrying out the lead agency responsibilities for the Hawaii coastal zone management program, as specified in chapter 205A. Also, developing and maintaining an ocean and coastal resources information, planning, and management system further developing and coordinating implementation of the ocean resources management plan, and formulating ocean policies with respect to the exclusive economic zone, coral reefs, and national marine sanctuaries;
- (7) Regional planning and studies. Conducting plans and studies to determine:
 - (A) The capability of various regions within the State to support projected increases in both resident populations and visitors;
 - (B) The potential physical, social, economic, and environmental impact on these regions resulting from increases in both resident populations and visitors;

Report Title:

Majority Package; Climate Change Adaptation Planning; Interagency Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability And Adaptation Committee; Appropriation.

Description:

Addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the interagency sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee under the department of land and natural resources to create a sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that addresses sea-level rise impacts statewide out to 2050. Tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations using the sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report as framework for addressing other statewide climate impacts identified under Act 286 (2012). Appropriates funds for staffing and resources. Effective upon approval.

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

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The 2012 Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment found that throughout the Pacific warmer and drier conditions will decrease fresh water supplies. Rising sea levels, exacerbated by storms, will increase coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal ecosystems and infrastructure and affecting agriculture, tourism, military bases, and other industries. Higher sea-surface temperatures will increase coral bleaching, leading to coral death and habitat loss. Increasing ocean acidification will have negative consequences for the entire marine ecosystem. In the long term, open-ocean fisheries will decline. Rising temperatures, and in some areas reduced rainfall, will increase the risk of extinctions. Threats to the traditional lifestyles of indigenous communities may include destruction of coastal artifacts and structures and reduced availability of traditional food sources and subsistence fisheries, which will make it difficult for Pacific Island communities to sustain their connection with a defined place and their unique set of customs, beliefs, and languages.

The legislature further finds that beach erosion, drought, and rising temperature are already having measurable impacts on Hawaii and are expected to accelerate in the years to come. With beaches continuing to erode, rain continuing to diminish, and sea levels projected to rise one foot by 2050 and three feet by 2100, Hawaii is highly vulnerable.

In 2012, the legislature enacted Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, creating Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines encouraging collaboration to address climate change and recognizing that it will impact the following: agriculture; conservation lands; coastal and

- ~~(1)(2)~~ ~~(5)~~ Update expected impacts and adaptation policies every five years, as necessary, priorities identified in Act 286 (2012); and
- ~~(3)~~ Allocate funding and create positions to carry out these purposes.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"CHAPTER

INTERAGENCY CLIMATE COUNCIL

§ -1 INTERAGENCY climate council; coordinator SEA LEVEL RISE

VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. "**§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Committee" means the interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee."

"Chairperson" means the "chairperson of the department of land and natural resources."

§ -2 Interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established ~~on January 1, 2015, an interagency climate council~~ sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee that shall be temporarily placed within the office of the governor; ~~provided that on January 1, 2018, the interagency climate council shall be permanently established within the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes only.~~

(b) Coordination of the ~~interagency climate council~~ committee shall be headed by the ~~governor's sustainability coordinator. The coordinator shall have, at minimum:~~ chairperson of the department, or his designee.

~~(1) Professional training or work experience in the field of environmental science and environmental sustainability; and~~

~~(2) Direct experience in programs, projects, or services relating to climate change.~~

~~(c)~~

The ~~coordinator~~ committee shall:

(1) ~~(1)~~ Develop a climate change impact sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that contains the following:

(A) ~~(A)~~ Identification of the major areas of climate change impact sea level rise impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;

~~(13) — (e) Directors of each of the county planning departments, or their designees;~~
~~and~~

~~(14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.~~

~~(d) In addition to the members listed in subsection (d), the following shall be requested to participate (c), the chairperson may designate members of the public; experts in the activities of the interagency climate council:~~

- ~~— (1) The governor;~~
- ~~— (2) The commander of the United States Pacific Command;~~
- ~~— (3) The director of the department of planning and permitting of the city field; and county of Honolulu;~~
- ~~— (4) The planning director of the Kauai county planning department;~~
- ~~— (5) The planning director of the planning department of the county of Hawaii;~~
- ~~— (6) The director of the department of planning of the county of Maui;~~
- ~~— (7) The president of the University of Hawaii;~~
- ~~— (8) The director of the University of Hawaii sea grant program;~~
- ~~— (9) The executive director of the national disaster preparedness training center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~— (10) The dean of the school of ocean and earth science and technology of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~— (11) The dean of the college of tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~— (12) The regional administrator of region A of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or regional administrator's designee;~~
- ~~— (13) The regional administrator of region IX of the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security;~~
- ~~— (14) The Honolulu field office director of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;~~

- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Providing in-depth policy research, analysis, and recommendations on existing or potential areas of critical state concern;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Examining and evaluating the effectiveness of state programs in implementing state policies and priorities;
 - (C) ~~————— (C) —~~ Monitoring through surveys, environmental scanning, and other techniques--current social, economic, and physical conditions and trends; and
 - (D) ~~————— (D) —~~ Developing, in collaboration with affected public or private agencies and organizations, implementation plans and schedules and, where appropriate, assisting in the mobilization of resources to meet identified needs;
- (3) ~~—(3)—~~ Planning coordination and cooperation. Facilitating coordinated and cooperative planning and policy development and implementation activities among state agencies and between the state, county, and federal governments, by:
- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Reviewing, assessing, and coordinating, as necessary, major plans, programs, projects, and regulatory activities existing or proposed by state and county agencies;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Formulating mechanisms to simplify, streamline, or coordinate interagency development and regulatory processes; and
 - (C) ~~————— (C) —~~ Recognizing the presence of federal defense and security forces and agencies in the State as important state concerns;
- (4) ~~—(4)—~~ Statewide planning and geographic information system. Collecting, integrating, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating various forms of data and information, including geospatial data and information, to further effective state planning, policy analysis and development, and delivery of government services by:
- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Collecting, assembling, organizing, evaluating, and classifying existing geospatial and non-geospatial data and performing necessary basic research, conversions, and integration to provide a common database for governmental planning and geospatial analyses by state agencies;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Planning, coordinating, and maintaining a comprehensive, shared statewide planning and geographic information system and associated geospatial database. The office shall be the lead agency responsible for coordinating the maintenance of the multi-agency, statewide planning and geographic information system and coordinating, collecting, integrating, and disseminating geospatial data sets that are used to support a variety of state agency applications and other spatial data analyses to enhance decision-making. The office shall promote and encourage free and open data sharing among and between all government agencies. To ensure the maintenance of a comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date geospatial data resource that can be drawn upon for decision-making related to essential public policy issues such as land use planning, resource management, homeland security, and the overall health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's citizens, and to avoid redundant data development efforts, state agencies shall provide to the shared system either their respective geospatial databases or, at a minimum,

(B) ~~Provide planning and policy guidance and assistance to the interagency climate council and state and county agencies regarding climate change;~~ and

(C) ~~The office shall publish its findings, recommendations, and progress reports on actions taken pursuant to subparagraph (A) no later than December 31, 2016/2017, and shall publish updated reports every five years in its annual report to the governor and the legislature thereafter."~~

~~SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$110,000/57,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the office of planning with staffing including two one full-time equivalent (FTE) ~~positions~~ position, and resources to carry out the mission purposes of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii this Act.~~

~~The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of planning for the purposes of this Act.~~

~~SECTION 5. SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$57,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the department with staffing including one full-time equivalent (FTE) position, and resources to carry out the purposes of this Act.~~

~~SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to enable the sustainability coordinator ~~department~~ to research and develop a coordinated, multidisciplinary climate change study Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report pursuant to this Act.~~

~~The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor ~~chairperson~~ for the purposes of this Act.~~

~~SECTION 7. SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the interagency climate council office of planning to carry out its duties pursuant to this Act.~~

~~The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor.~~

~~SECTION 8. SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.~~

~~SECTION 9. SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval, provided that sections 4, 5, and 6 take effect on July 1, 2014.~~

INTRODUCED BY: _____

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Report Title:

Majority Package; Climate Change Adaptation Planning; ~~Inter-Agency Climate Council~~ Interagency Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability And Adaptation Committee; Appropriation.

Description:

Addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the ~~sustainability coordinator~~ interagency sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee under the department of land and natural resources to create ~~initial reports identifying expected climate~~ a sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that addresses sea-level rise impacts statewide out to 2050. Tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations ~~based on reports from sustainability coordinator~~. Establishes an ~~interagency~~ using the sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report as framework for addressing other statewide climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050-impacts identified under Act 286 (2012). Appropriates funds for staffing and resources. Effective ~~July 1, 2014~~ upon approval.

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