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HAWAII



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LAND
STATE PARKS

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

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
and
WATER AND LAND**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018
1:15 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1977, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION**

House Bill 1977, House Draft 2 proposes that the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency develop a strategic regional flood plan that shall address flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion, and catastrophic floods, and report its progress back to the legislature. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The development of a strategic regional flood plan will require the participation of various County, State and Federal Agencies, and may also include participation from large private landowners. The Department suggests utilizing a working group comprised of the appropriate agencies and stakeholders that have authority or involvement in flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion or flood preparation and recovery activities to develop a comprehensive report to the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON
HOUSE BILL 1977 HD2, RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION

Before the Senate Committees on
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM) and Water and Land (WTL)

by
THOMAS TRAVIS
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Chairs Nishihara and Rhoads, Vice-Chairs Wakai and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) supports the intent of House Bill 1977 HD2 regarding the development of a flood mitigation plan with the following comments:

- HI-EMA support is predicated on the understanding that this proposal does not detract from the Governor's priorities as documented in his executive package.
- We concur with DLNR testimony that the development of such strategic regional flood plan will require a working group comprised of the appropriate agencies that have authority or involvement in flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion or preparation and recovery activities.
- HI-EMA respectfully requests that Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources be named a co-chair of the working group, given their flood expertise and program responsibilities.
 - Specifically, Chapter 179 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), related to Flood Control and Flood Water Conservation, designates the BLNR as "the state agency responsible for the accomplishment of the purposes of this chapter." HRS sec. 179-3(a)
 - HRS sec. 179-4 (1) also authorizes the BLNR to, "Coordinate the programs and activities of all agencies of the State, conformance with the objectives of the statewide flood control program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill 1977 HD2.

Thomas Travis: thomas.l.travis@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

Moses Kaoiwi; moses.kaoiwi@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 1:05:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 12:19:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha,

as an island state, this action is crucial.

mahalo, janice

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 12:26:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Reed Gach	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this Flood Mitigation bill.

Michael Gach, Ph.D.

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 1:03:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Committee members,

Flooding is a common occurrence in Hawaii and there needs to be strategic regional flood plans identified and in place. This needs to be mandated by this bill. I support this bill and encourage passing it.

Mahalo for reviewing my testimony,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 3:26:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this important bill

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 4:13:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Gray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 1:52:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara L. George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT!

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 12:56:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Boisvert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1977 and hope it will pass so I don't have to put a rowboat in my assigned parking space at my condo building.

That said, the sad fact is that the sea level is rising due to climate change, and in order for the state to survive, flood mitigation plans must be made now **before** the proverbial horse is out of the barn. Those plans must also categorically and irrevocably prohibit development that covers vital watersheds with concrete and pavement.

Respectfully yours,

Denise Boisvert

Waikiki

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 2:02:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Jorgensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

There is no time to waste when it comes to flood mitigation and control. Let's do this now before it is too little, too late.

I strongly support HB 1977.

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 2:47:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Fujita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2018 6:55:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Garland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 8:41:47 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/20/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments: