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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Wednesday, April 4, 2018
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In Consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1984, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO WATER SECURITY**

House Bill 1984, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to appropriate to the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) \$350,000 to conduct an update of the Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan in order to ensure that emerging issues, such as climate change, are adequately addressed in the State's long-range plan to protect and conserve our water resources. **The Department supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget Request.**

Section 174C-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), provides for the development of the Hawaii Water Plan, a long-range, comprehensive, multi-component plan that seeks to address the problems of supply and conservation of water. Section 174C-31(n), HRS, further provides that the Commission may add to the Hawaii Water Plan any other information, directions, or objectives it feels necessary or desirable for the guidance of the counties. Under this authority, the Commission adopted the Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan in 2000. The Framework is a guidance document that provides recommended elements for inclusion in each component plan so that updated plans are more useful and may be more easily integrated and coordinated with respect to water source development by the State and counties.

With many of the components being updated for the first time since initial adoption of the Hawaii Water Plan in 1990, it is timely to conduct a comprehensive review of the Framework based on the experiences and lessons learned by the various agencies responsible for updating individual component plans. Better guidance will provide the basis for more holistic water planning thereby increasing our future water security.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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April 4, 2018

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

Subject: House Bill 1984, HD 1, SD 1, Relating to Water Security

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports House Bill (HB) 1984, House Draft (HD) 1, Senate Draft (SD) 1, relating to Water Security, which directs the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) to update the statewide framework for the Hawaii Water Plan. We agree that an update is needed to provide additional guidance to address emerging issues of climate change research and forecasting, sea level rise impacts to freshwater and extending the planning horizon to capture these long term trends.

The BWS is committed to doing its part to ensure water security on Oahu by understanding climate change and its implications on water resources planning and the impact of drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion on water system infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony on House Bill 1984, HD 1, SD 1.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

HB-1984-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 6:18:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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:

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB1984 HD1 SD1** relating to the Hawaii Water Plan Statewide Framework Update; Commission on Water Resource Management; Climate Change; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB1984 HD1 SD1** and supports its passage.

HB1984 HD1 SD1 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requires the commission on water resource management to conduct an update of the statewide framework for updating the Hawaii water plan to provide additional guidance for updating the Hawaii water plan, and makes an appropriation.

The DPH Platform states that "[w]e support the protection of our 'aina against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our fresh water resources.

We support democratic participation of citizens and residents to protect (i) valuable coastal ecosystems and reefs from misuse and (ii) beaches for public use and recreation. The Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, HRS Chapter 205A, currently provides for public participation in management of coastal resources.

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources.

We know that climate change is a real threat to our islands and the world. We strongly urge our candidates and elected officials to take immediate action to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. This includes funding adaptation measures including coastal retreat, effective participation of indigenous peoples in climate change governance, and recognition that indigenous, local, and traditional ecological knowledge is key in climate change adaptation solutions. (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 422-439 (2016)).

Given that **HB1984 HD1 SD1** requires the commission on water resource management to conduct an update of the statewide framework for updating the Hawaii water plan to provide additional guidance for updating the Hawaii water plan, and makes an appropriation, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

HB-1984-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 6:04:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: