

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

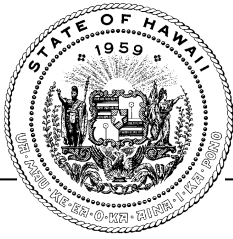
**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, March 15, 2019
3:00pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 765, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE**

House Bill 765, House Draft 1 requires incorporation of sea level rise projections in all new plans and updates to existing state plans generated under the Hawaii State Planning Act. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this measure.**



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND
AND AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Friday, March 15, 2019
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
HB 765, HD1
RELATING TO COASTAL PLANNING.

Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Ruderman, and Members of the Senate Committees on Water and Land, and Agriculture and Environment.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the amendment to HRS Chapter 226 to add a new section “§226- Sea level rise; plans.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this matter.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

JOINT SENATE COMMITTEES ON WTL AND AEN

March 15, 2019 3:00 PM Room 225

In **SUPPORT** of **HB 765 HD1**: Relating to Coastal Planning

Aloha Chair Kahele, Chair Gabbard, and members of the WTL and AEN committees,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports HB 765 HD1**, which requires incorporation of sea level rise projections in all new plans and updates to existing state plans generated under the Hawaii State Planning Act.

This bill is important, as it provides the legislative mandate needed to implement findings and recommendations from the "Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report" (the Report) prepared by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission¹, especially those recommendations dealing with climate change hazards and mitigation in an era of sea level rise.

While much of the focus of the Report is on the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability projections of 3.2 feet expected to occur before the year 2100, *impacts of sea level rise are here already and will accelerate in coming years*. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences.

We commend the authors of HB 765 for their initiative in providing legislation to implement the Report's recommendations and are appreciative that the legislature has introduced several bills relating to sea level rise this session. This bill is a good first step to ensure our agencies incorporate and evaluate the latest sea level rise projections into applicable state plans.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 765 HD1**.

Mahalo,

Jodi Malinoski, Policy Advocate

¹ https://climateadaptation.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/SLR-Report_Dec2017.pdf

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 4:25:13 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
League of Women Voters of Hawaii	Testifying for League of Women Voters	Support	No

Comments:



Young Democrats of Hawaii
Democratic Party of Hawaii

**Testimony presented before the Committee on Water and Land
and the Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Friday, March 15, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224**

House Bill 765, House Draft I

Dear Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Ruderman, and members of the Committees:

House Bill 765, House Draft 1 requires the incorporation of sea level rise projections in all new plans and updates to existing state plans generated under the Hawaii State Planning Act. In January 2019 the Young Democrats of Hawaii conducted a member survey to identify and prioritize important issues facing young people today. Taking action on climate change was identified as one of the top three issues. YDHI members recognize that the impacts of climate change are already being felt throughout the world and in the State of Hawaii, and that actions must be taken immediately to ensure a viable future for all of Hawaii residents. The Young Democrats of Hawaii **strongly supports** the passing of House Bill 765, HD1 for the following reasons:

- 1) According to the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Assessment Report, Hawaii is set to experience at least 3.2 feet of sea level rise by mid-century to the end of the century. State-wide impact would include \$19 billion in loss of land and structures and at least 116 miles of major road and coastal highway being flooded. The report also estimates almost 20,000 people will be displaced from their homes within the same time period.
- 2) Incorporating sea level rise projections in all new plans and updates to existing plans is a good step in ensuring state entities follow the recommendations of the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Executive Committee
Young Democrats of Hawaii

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:20:55 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:59:17 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 3:51:11 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Puppione	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 3:58:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:11:19 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Reeser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, will impact everyone in Hawaii and will be devastating if we don't address it now.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:14:14 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Eisen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, are a pernicious type of hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. While it is already required to incorporate sea level rise projections into Chapter 343, HRS reports, we also need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:20:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:35:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hunter Heavilin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:38:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:57:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill - - especially because we live on an island!

Please support it as well.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:03:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:48:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:21:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 6:11:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
L.M. Holmes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change. Dr. L.M. Holmes, Honolulu 96817

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:07:03 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 7:31:16 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Bronfman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate change is a reality we are seeing here in the Pacific Islands we need to plan for. We cannot afford to be in denial or foolish. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:14:27 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and honorable members of the joint committee,

I urge you to support HB 765 requiring new developments and existing plans to consider the projections of sea level rise. The response to sea level rise from the State is a policy of managed retreat and this bill is an important step towards moving new infrastructure to a safer location inland. The amount of damage to current land and structures (not including infrastructure such as roads and utilities) is \$19 billion with 3.2 feet of sea level rise. (2017 DLNR/Tetra Tech Report) This is a common sense bill that has the full weight of current science and policy to support it.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony. I hope you will support this important bill.

Regards,

Stacey Gray

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 7:44:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support this bill because I don't own a boat!

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 2:25:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philip Fernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sea Level Rise will be reality. The state must plan for this eventuality.

Please SUPPORT HB765 HD1.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 4:31:07 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. We need to be incorporating sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoiding construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and supporting innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 11:31:09 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

LATE

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

Comments:

SUPPORT. Climate Change impacts, especially sea level rise, create a new type of coastal hazard affecting coastal areas now and increasingly in the future. Policy and permitting decisions with long-term effects related to sea level rise are happening now, including approvals of structures with long life spans, siting of utilities and other capital improvements, and other actions with long-range consequences. NOW, we must incorporate sea level rise projections into our state plans, avoid construction within hazardous coastal areas to protect our beaches, and support innovative solutions to address climate change.

HB-765-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 2:58:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Chatterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: