



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
11:00 AM

in consideration of
HB 1149, HD 1
RELATING TO LAND USE.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Office of Planning **supports the intent** of this HB 1149 and appreciates the amendments made in the HD 1.

The purpose of HB 1149, HD 1 is to reorganize and integrate the Land Use Commission within a modified Office of Planning, which is renamed as the “Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.” The measure also reclassifies the coastal zone management program and statewide sustainability branch as divisions within the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

The Office of Planning understands that the introduction of HB 1149, HD 1 is in conjunction with HB 1318, in an effort to consolidate various government land use and environmental policy functions of different agencies into a new structure under the Office of Planning.

The Office of Planning recognizes that through this proposed consolidation is the need for a firewall between its important work as a party before the Land Use Commission; however, the Office of Planning notes that HB 1149 appears to address this need for a firewall in section (e) on page 6, and section (e) on pages 19 and 20 of the measure.

The Office of Planning *thanks* the Legislature for recently passing [Act 45, SLH 2020](#), and is actively working on the sustainable development and climate adaptation of the state to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations of Hawai‘i to meet their own needs.

Mahalo for the opportunity provide testimony on HB 1149, HD 1.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor

MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director



LAND USE COMMISSION
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
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Statement of
DANIEL ORODENKER
Executive Officer, Land Use Commission
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
in consideration of
HB 1149
RELATING TO LAND USE

Chair Luke, Vice Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Land Use Commission (LUC) supports HB 1149, Relating to Land Use. The purpose of this measure is to gain efficiencies in the handling of land use issues and planning and to streamline government by locating cohesive government programs in one office. Given that Office of Planning (OP) is an integral element to all LUC proceedings, consolidating the two in the same office will allow better preparation for and administration of LUC hearings.

The LUC has had significant discussions with OP regarding this proposed measure and, while there are some challenges raised by the consolidation, OP and LUC are fully supportive of their respective positions.

This measure also includes language that clarifies and specifically sets forth the role of the LUC and OP in handling administrative matters and operational matters. The structure provides for continued autonomy of the LUC and the flexibility to handle any potential conflicts of interest while still allowing for shared resources and personnel. Additional administrative or shared resources will significantly enhance operations, allow for more efficient use of personnel and has the potential to significantly decrease the time it takes to process of petitions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.