

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE  
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
1:35 PM**

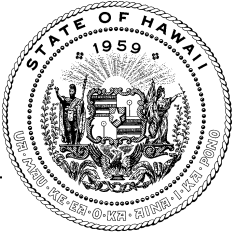
**State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 102, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, IN COLLABORATION WITH  
VARIOUS AGENCIES, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH A STATE  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN HAWAII.**

House Concurrent Resolution 102, House Draft 2 requests the Office of Planning, in collaboration, with various agencies, to develop a plan to establish a State Geological Survey in Hawaii. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this resolution.**

A State Geological Survey would provide additional data on natural resources and hazards. The collection, analysis, organization, and communication of this data will become more critical as climate change transforms the geological and climatic processes that affect our islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846  
Fax: (808) 587-2824  
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
1:35 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229  
In consideration of  
**HCR 102, HD 2**

**REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, IN COLLABORATION WITH  
VARIOUS AGENCIES, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH A STATE  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN HAWAII.**

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee on Water and Land:

The Office of Planning (OP) **strongly supports** HCR 102, HD 2 and recognizes the importance of establishing a state geological survey in Hawai'i to unify the State's mapping capability, make Hawai'i eligible to compete for applicable federal funds, and provide a broader range of geological information for the public and state decision-makers to use in mitigation and management planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research (808) 587-0666  
Revisor (808) 587-0670  
Fax (808) 587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

## Written Comments

### HCR102, HD2

# REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, IN COLLABORATION WITH VARIOUS AGENCIES, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH A STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN HAWAII

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director  
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 1:35 p.m.  
Conference Room 229

Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon Chair Inouye and members of the Committee. My name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written **comments** on H.C.R. 102, H.D. 2, Requesting the Office of Planning, in Collaboration with Various Agencies, to Develop a Plan to Establish a State Geological Survey in Hawaii.

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Planning, in collaboration with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, University of Hawaii, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Department of Transportation, and the appropriate county planning departments and county emergency management agencies, to develop a plan to establish a state geological survey in Hawaii. The plan is requested to include:

- (1) Proposed scopes of work for the state geological survey, including proposed ways to consolidate existing functions into a state geological survey;
- (2) Proposed organizational structures of the state geological survey, including advantages and disadvantages of each proposed structure;

- (3) Proposed staff positions that would be needed for the state geological survey, including salary levels;
- (4) Proposed sources for funding or other necessary resources; and
- (5) Enabling legislation to create the state geological survey.

The measure also directs the Legislative Reference Bureau, upon request of the Office of Planning, to assist in the preparation of any proposed legislation that may be required to implement the Office of Planning's findings and recommendations; provided that, before December 1, 2022, the Office of Planning submits any draft documents, including information and materials deemed necessary by the Legislative Reference Bureau, for the preparation of proposed legislation. The measure further requests the Office of Planning to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure but submits the following comments for your consideration.

The Bureau believes that, if the scope of the Bureau's requested assistance is not altered, the services requested under the measure would be manageable; provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many additional responsibilities, such as conducting studies, writing or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or any combination of these for the Legislature or for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written comments.