



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF PLANNING  
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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Statement of  
**SCOTT GLENN, Director**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**  
and the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Friday, February 10, 2023, 1:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of  
**SB 1417**  
**RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Chairs Gabbard and Inouye, Vice Chairs Richards and Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment, and Water and Land:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports SB 1417**, which requires the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kakaako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

In accordance with HRS § 225M-9, and 225M-2(b)(9) the OPSD Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM Program) and State Sustainability Branch is in ongoing coordination with HCDA to address sea level rise and climate resiliency issues. The OPSD recently provided a presentation on sea level rise adaptation to the HCDA board and met with HCDA leadership to discuss sea level rise, climate resiliency, and sustainable development strategies within their respective districts. The OPSD looks forward to continued collaboration with HCDA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

CHASON ISHII  
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of  
**Craig K. Nakamoto, Executive Director**  
Hawai'i Community Development Authority

before the joint Senate  
**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**  
and the  
**COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Friday, February 10, 2023  
1:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

In consideration of  
**SB 1417**  
**RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.**

Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Inouye, Honorable Vice Chairs Richards and Elefante, and members of the Committees.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports SB1417** that requires HCDA to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

In accordance with *Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS)*, HCDA already works closely with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) regarding climate change mitigation and sea level rise adaptation. The notion of climate resilience considers the risk, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity associated with climate-related hazards.

These considerations are timely, especially given the continued growth of the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts along with the evolving science and practice of climate adaptation.

If passed in its current form, HCDA would need to develop implementation rules for the respective community development districts. This process would likely include stakeholder outreach to identify community tolerances to climate-related hazards, such as flooding or infrastructure disruption. HCDA would also consider ways in which hazard mitigation can be designed into buildings, such as those set forth in the climate adaptation design principles for urban development that have been developed by the City and County of Honolulu.

Finally, we note that HCDA is subject to *HRS Chapter 205A, Coastal Zone Management*, for development within special management areas and shoreline setback variances on any lands within a community development district.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, February 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

By

Charles “Chip” Fletcher, PhD  
Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Darren T. Lerner, PhD  
Director, Sea Grant College Program,  
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Michael Bruno, Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### SB 1417 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Gabbard, Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Richards, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) and the Climate Resilience Collaborative (CRC) **support Senate Bill 1417** and offer one comment on how to improve the specificity of the measure.

This measure requires the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilient development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC support SB1417 as written but note that the measure could give more direction as to what is required under this new guidance policy. Specifically, the measure states in Section 2 and Section 3 that the Kaka'ako Community Development District and the Kalaeloa Community Development District “shall consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilient development in the design and siting of buildings.” As one example, we recommend that the measure implement design standards for new construction that require lowest finished floor to elevate a minimum of two feet above the flood insurance rate map base flood elevation or 5.8 feet above Mean Higher High Water, whichever is higher, based on the latest guidance from the Honolulu Climate Change Commission. This would help align SB1417 with local adaptation guidance.

Hawai'i Sea Grant's mission is to provide integrated research, extension, and education activities that increase understanding and use of ocean and coastal resources of the Hawaiian and Pacific Islands and support the informed personal, policy, and management decisions that are integral to realizing this vision. Hawai'i Sea Grant is part of a national network of 34 university-based programs associated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that promote better understanding, conservation, and use of coastal resources.

CRC is a multi-investigator research project at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa focused on sea level rise adaptation and climate resilience. CRC is updating coastal models that project the impacts of sea level rise.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

**Hawai'i Sea Grant and the Climate Resilience Collaborative support SB 1417.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



To: The Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Inouye, Vice-chairs Richards and Elefante, and members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing SB1417 **RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Hearing: Friday, February 10, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Inouye, Vice Chairs Richards and Elefante, and members of the Committees:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate.

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**The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB1417!**

The Hawaii Legislature has recognized that we are in a climate emergency. We have set a target in our State law of becoming carbon negative as soon as practicable but no later than 2045. In order to meet that target, we have to support carbon sequestration and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases much more than we are doing today.

This bill would move in the right direction by requiring the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise,

and climate resilience in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

This bill is timely, especially given the rapid development that will continue to occur in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa Community Development Districts.

We thank the committee for hearing this important measure! We strongly urge your passage of SB1417.

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

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**SB-1417**

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 2:45:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/10/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill.

**SB-1417**

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 5:13:25 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/10/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support



**SB-1417**

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 9:20:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/10/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Climate change and sea level rise pose significant, dangerous, and imminent threats to the state's social and economic well-being, public safety, nature and environment, cultural resources, property, infrastructure, and government functions and will likely have a disproportionate impact on low-income and otherwise vulnerable communities.

A 2017 report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration projected that 3.2 feet of global mean sea level rise will occur by 2100 in an intermediate scenario and could occur as early as the 20603 in an extreme scenario.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) plans, coordinates, and implements new infrastructure and development projects in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts on O'ahu. Kaka'ako will be threatened by the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and heavy rainfall, and the lack of drainage infrastructure in Kalaeloa makes it vulnerable to the impacts of increasingly violent storm weather.

It is in our long-term best interest to ensure that development in these communities accounts and plans for the impacts of climate change. Please pass SB1417.