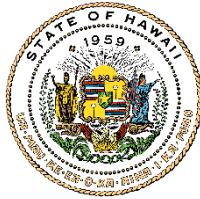


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
FINANCE

Monday, February 26, 2024
2:00 PM

State Capitol, VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, Conference Room 308

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1840, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

House Bill 1840, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to support long-term water quality monitoring and pollution source detection. **The Department supports this bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive FY 2025 Supplemental Budget Request, and offers the following comments and recommendations.**

The Department recognizes that the pollution impacts from the Lahaina fires are likely to persist in our coastal waters and therefore accumulate in the marine resources we are mission bound to manage and conserve.

Considering the expertise, detailed operating procedures, and quality assurance practices necessary to sustain coastal monitoring, allocating \$140,000 per year to support regular ongoing chemical and physical coastal water quality testing and storm sampling would be appropriate (per section 2, paragraph (1)). This level of annual funding would help ensure that the regular ongoing data collection for the impacted Lahaina burn area is sustained, and would allow for sampling at a total of 25 West Maui sites every three weeks, plus four storm sampling events per year.

Characterizing the many classes of contaminants found in the water, sediment and accumulating in the tissue of fish and marine invertebrates in the nearshore waters off Lahaina is essential for protecting the people of Hawaii from hazards in the marine environment, and ingestion of contaminated seafood. This type of work requires very detailed and expensive lab analysis and is expected to cost \$450,000 per year (per section 2, paragraph (2)).

DAWN N. S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY
DEAN D. UYENO
ACTING 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

Additional agency staff time is needed to assist with coordinating and carrying out these critical water quality monitoring tasks. The expected costs for a full-time Aquatic Biologist III would be \$58,000 per year (per section 2, paragraph (3)) and for a full-time Aquatic Biologist IV would be an additional \$63,000 per year (per section 2, paragraph (4)). While these two positions would support water quality monitoring on Maui, the Lahaina fire has highlighted the gap in nearshore water quality monitoring statewide. The Department recommends establishing six Aquatic Biologist III positions and six Aquatic Biologist IV positions (one each for Kaua‘i, O‘ahu, Maui, Moloka‘i, East Hawai‘i, and West Hawai‘i) to meet statewide water quality monitoring and pollution source detection needs. The total cost of these twelve biologist positions is \$726,000 annually.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins




Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 24, 2024

TO: The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Finance

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1840, HD1, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this measure, which would appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for water-quality monitoring and pollution-source detection.

I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. It advances the health and safety objective of protecting Maui County residents from health issues from air and water degradation caused by the 2023 wildfires and recovery efforts.
2. This measure fulfills the House Environmental Remediation Working Group's recommendation to increase resources for water-quality monitoring and contaminant testing.
3. The entire Lahaina coastline is in the impact zone of water contamination because of runoff, debris, and contaminants. This measure will support much-needed testing on the coastal ecosystem for risks.
4. This measure promotes responsible environmental stewardship, which will be key to rebuilding West Maui.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 10:16:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Paltin	Councilmember Tamara Paltin	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Yamashita and Vice Chair Kitagawa,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on HB1840 HD1

I write in strong support of appropriating funds to DLNR to support long-term water quality and pollution source detection. Our environment is closely tied to our economy and we must do what we can to safeguard it for both the sake of the environment itself as well as our economy which is dependent on tourism which is dependent on good ocean quality free from harmful pollutants.

Mahalo for your service and commitment to our communities,

Tamara

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 3:31:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shane Sinenci	Maui County Councilmember	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Speaking in support.

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 8:28:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, February 26, 2024 — 2:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 1840 HD1, Relating to the Environment.

Dear Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports HB 1840 HD1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Land of Natural Resources to support long-term water quality monitoring and pollution source detection.

Ulupono supports the State's efforts to create more resilient communities by providing them with the data they need to make informed decisions about their health and safety. Long-term monitoring of stormwater runoff and coastal water quality will also enable government officials to evaluate the effectiveness of existing near-shore protection policies. Doing so may underscore the need to explore more innovative solutions such as stormwater capture and reuse, as well as green infrastructure requirements for new and existing developments.

This data-driven approach not only empowers communities but also good government decision-making to assess the efficacy of important water policies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



February 26, 2024

Representative Kyle Yamashita
Chair, Committee on Finance

Representative Lisa Kitagawa
Vice-Chair, Committee on Finance

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 1840, HD1 Relating to the Environment

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee,

On behalf of Resources Legacy Fund (RLF), we are writing in support HB 1840, HD1 relating to the environment, which appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to support long-term water quality monitoring and pollution source detection.

Water quality monitoring and pollution source detection provide benefits within and beyond watersheds and improve our understanding of impacts to our coral reefs. We know through a series of public opinion surveys that Hawai'i residents overwhelmingly prioritize our collective responsibility to invest in the health of Hawai'i's reefs and nearshore marine waters. Funding to support water quality monitoring and pollution source detection is essential to steward our reefs, and the fisheries and communities that depend on them.

HB 1840, HD1 provides an important opportunity to monitor and protect Hawai'i's nearshore waters for present and future generations. We respectfully urge you to approve this important legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1840, HD1.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Garovoy Herbert
Senior Program Officer, Resources Legacy Fund



Testimony of **Lahaina Strong**
Before the House Committees on
Finance

In Consideration of House Bill No. 1840, HD1
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

To Chair Yamashita, Chair Kitagawa, and the honorable members of the committees,

We are writing on behalf of Lahaina Strong, an organization that was initially formed in 2018 following the Hurricane Lane fire in Lahaina and re-energized last year after the devastating Lahaina fires on August 8. Our organization is the largest grassroots, Lahaina-based community organization, with over 20,000 supporters, engaged in emphasizing the importance of local voices and community-driven solutions.

Lahaina Strong stands in support of HB1840 HD1, a bill that appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air and water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

The legislature's recognition that wildfires in urban areas, such as those devastating Maui on August 8, 2023, carry a heightened risk due to the combustion of diverse materials is a critical understanding. Urban fires involve not just natural materials but also household appliances, commercial machinery, vehicles, and construction materials, releasing a spectrum of toxic chemicals and contaminants. The aftermath leaves behind a complex mix of substances that can persist in the ecosystem, posing potential threats to both human health and the environment.

The proposed allocation of funding resources for long-term monitoring of water quality aligns seamlessly with Lahaina Strong's commitment to the sustained well-being of our community. Coastal water quality testing and contaminant monitoring are essential components of addressing both short- and long-term risks posed by urban wildfires.

The inevitability of environmental contamination following such fires, as evidenced in the Maui wildfires, underscores the urgency of comprehensive monitoring efforts.

We commend the foresight of the House Environmental Remediation Working Group in acknowledging the importance of long-term monitoring. **While immediate risks are being assessed by various state departments and organizations, the long-term impact on human health and the ecosystem necessitates ongoing evaluation.** The proposed support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires is a proactive measure that Lahaina Strong fully endorses.

In conclusion, Lahaina Strong urges the passage of House Bill 1840 HD1, recognizing its significance in allocating resources for the crucial long-term monitoring of water quality and supporting research initiatives. This legislative action will not only contribute to the ongoing recovery efforts post-Maui wildfires but also set a precedent for addressing environmental challenges in the wake of urban fires statewide.

Mahalo for your attention to this vital matter and your dedication to safeguarding our community and environment.

Sincerely,

Jordan Ruidas, Pa'ele Kiakona & Courtney Lazo

Lahaina Strong



Testimony Before The
House Committee on Finance (FIN)
IN SUPPORT TO HB1840 HD1
February 26, 2024, 2:00PM, Room 308
Via Zoom

We are Olan Leimomi Fisher and Kevin Chang, Kua'āina Advocate and Executive Director, respectively, testifying on behalf of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). "Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo" stands for "grassroots growing through shared responsibility," and our acronym "KUA" means "backbone." **Our mission is to connect and empower communities to improve their quality of life through the collective care for their biocultural (natural and cultural) heritage, serving as a "backbone organization" that supports creative and community-driven solutions to problems stemming from environmental degradation.** Hawai'i's biocultural resources continue to be negatively impacted by political, economic, and social changes, and the increasing dangers of climate change make fostering and empowering resilient communities acutely critical.

Currently KUA supports three major networks of: (1) almost 40 mālama 'āina (caring for our 'āina or "that which feeds") community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together); (2) over 60 loko i'a (fishpond aquaculture systems unique to Hawai'i) and wai 'ōpae (anchialine pool systems) sites in varying stages of restoration and development, with numerous caretakers, stakeholders, and volunteers known as the Hui Mālama Loko I'a ("caretakers of fishponds"); and (3) the Limu Hui made up of over 50 loea (traditional experts) and practitioners in all things "limu" or locally-grown "seaweed." Our shared vision is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as **'āina momona** – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our community resilience and well-being.

KUA supports HB1840 HD1 as an incremental step toward 'āina momona.

This bill will provide the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) with the necessary funds to support long-term water quality monitoring and pollution source detection. **Communities in our networks have long wanted to see greater capacity in water quality monitoring due to the effects of human-generated pollution in our streams and runoff into the nearshores negatively affecting fishery, limu, and loko i'a health and safe production.** In addition, our Maui communities impacted by the devastating fires last year are still working on the many steps necessary to rebuild their places with thoughtful and aloha 'āina-based developments. As DLNR notes in its testimony, understanding and monitoring the many levels of contaminants due to the fires is "essential" for protecting our kama'āina and visitors alike from poisoned seafood.

As such, **long-term water quality monitoring and pollution source detection should be a statewide priority with the growing threats of future fires and other environmental disasters due to climate change.** It is extremely unfortunate that it takes the nation's most devastating wildfire to-date to refocus our governmental leaders to seriously consider the

already-deteriorated state of our environmental ecosystems. But alas, we all must start somewhere. The communities we work with commit their lives to ensuring the long-term health of our shared biocultural resources. They have cared for, and depended on, these biocultural resources since time immemorial, and hope to continue their sustainable practices forever through future generations of koa aloha 'āina. **We believe our 'āina, the very foundation of our existence, is about long-term protection and steps necessary to once again achieve 'āina momona.**

Mahalo nui loa for considering our testimony. Please **PASS** HB1840 HD1.

Aloha 'Āina Momona no nā kau ā kau.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: House Committee on Finance
Hon. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Hon. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Re: HB 1839 HD 1 RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Hearing: Monday, February 26, 2024, 2:00 p.m., Room 308 & videoconference

Position: Strong Support

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i (DPH) strongly supports HB 1839 HD1. HD 1839 HD 1 appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires.

The PLATFORM OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I as adopted at the 2022 State Convention on May 28, 2022, states as follows:

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Protect and preserve Hawai'i's environment and achieve energy sustainability. Advance measures to re-establish a healthy climate and environment for humans and fellow species, including actions to urgently address climate change. Work towards 100% renewable clean energy goals.

We believe that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy and safe environment. We believe that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well-being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i. We support policies that create a more sustainable society. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems. [Emphasis added.]

We believe in the resource management principles outlined in the Public Trust doctrine of the Hawai'i State Constitution. We support policy that incorporates indigenous resource-management practices and technologies such as the Ahupua'a System in modern urban planning and development to create an ecologically sustainable balance between the needs of the people and the rights of nature.

We believe that a key part of a sustainable and self-sufficient future for Hawai‘i lies in achieving energy independence through a transition to clean renewable energy sources. We support policies that eliminate our dependence on fossil fuels and other dirty energy sources. We support policies that expand access to public transportation and encourage transit-oriented development and walkable communities.

Based on the DPH Platform, the Environmental Caucus supports this measure as monitoring air quality ensures the well-being of residents. Wildfires release harmful pollutants, including particulate matter (PM), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and carbon monoxide (CO). Long-term monitoring will help to identify trends, assess risks, and implement timely intervention to protect public health.

Further, urban fires have significant environmental consequences. They release greenhouse gases, contribute to climate change and harm ecosystems. Research through long term monitoring data can provide insights into mitigating these impacts and developing sustainable fire management strategies. Long-term monitoring data can guide the development of air quality standards and emergency response protocols.

Long-term monitoring data and research enhances our understanding of fire behavior, smoke dispersion, and pollutant transport. It fosters innovation in firefighting techniques, early warning systems, and pollution control technologies.

Accordingly, we urge you to **PASS** this measure as investing in air quality monitoring and research is essential for safeguarding public health, preserving the environment, and building resilient communities in the face of wildfire challenges.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

Melodie Adyja legislativepriorities@gmail.com

Alan B. Burdick burdick808@gmail.com

Co-Chairs,
Environmental Caucus of the
Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2024 8:24:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this common sense bill. Mahalo.

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:15:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joe DiNardo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support of HB1840 HD1

Hi, my name is Joe DiNardo. I have been a toxicologist since 1976 and I have worked with Hawaii on sunscreen issues since 2017. It is essential that Hawaii fund environmental testing because the amount and type of toxic materials that are available in the air, water and soil have significantly increase over the last few decades. Specifically, chemicals like PFAS can travel over 25 miles in the air with some of these chemicals staying in the air for up to 9 months. Additionally, some of these PFAS chemicals can last in the soil/water for up to 184 years and in human blood for up to 70 years. The EPA is tragically behind in protecting US citizens from chemical pollution - they are proposing a 4 parts per trillion (ppt) Maximum Contamination Level (MCL) for just drinking water for two PFAS chemicals - PFOA and PFOS. The dose that causes kidney cancer IN HUMANS is 0.007 ppt for PFOA and 1 ppt is the cancer causing dose for PFOS in animals. That is approximately 400 TIMES higher than the cancer dose that is KNOWN to produce human cancers and 4 times the levels that causes cancer in animals. In toxicology setting a dose this high above the carcinogenic levels would “normally” be call stupidity ... you cannot set a dose that is higher than the known cancer dose in humans and expect to protect the population!

The National Academies of Science committee found “SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE of an association for the following diseases and health outcomes: decreased antibody response (in adults and children), dyslipidemia (in adults and children), decreased infant and fetal growth, and increased risk of KIDNEY CANCER (in adults). AND found LIMITED OR SUGGESTIVE EVIDENCE of increased risk of BREAST CANCER (in adults), liver enzyme alterations (in adults and children), increased risk of pregnancy-induced hypertension (gestational hypertension and preeclampsia), increased risk of TESTICULAR CANCER (in adults), thyroid disease and dysfunction (in adults), and increased risk of ulcerative colitis (in adults).”

Maui, when last checked in 2022 it had approximately 1,600,000 ppt of PFOS in the ground water (Kahului Airport) ... that is 1.6 MILLION times above the dose that causes cancers in animals? With that said, Hawaii should also be moving towards testing the blood levels of its citizens. The EPA has finalized Method 1633 which establishes reasonable testing limits to identify 40 different PFAS analytes (there are tens of thousands of PFAS chemiclas). This is the correct method to use to identify risk to people.

Lastly, PFAS are only one of the many environmental contaminants that we are all dealing with ... other toxic chemicals like Mercury can travel up to 1,000 miles in the air, so perhaps focusing on Maui is good, but testing all of the Islands would be better ... FYI ... Pearl Harbor had 2,000,000 ppt of PFAS (again, this is MILLIONS of times above the dose that causes significant health issues and CANCERS) ... I cannot emphasize enough the level of toxic chemicals (PFAS, Bisphenols, Phthalates, Heavy Metals, Pesticides ... etc.) that industry and the federal government has allowed us to be exposed.

Please support environmental testing of at least PFAS chemicals and please consider testing your citizens blood levels ... this is a significant problem that many States are having to deal with ... we must stop CHEMICAL POLLUTION if we all wish to continue living on this planet.

Mahalo for all your efforts Please support HB 1840 HD1 ... Most Sincerely, Joe DiNardo
(jmjdinardo@aol.com)

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 7:25:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1840 HD1, that appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of water quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires. These are crucial efforts for the community's well-being and to ensure a just recovery for Maui.

I urge you to PASS this important measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Support for HB1840

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa and the honorable members of the committees,

I strongly support HB1840, which allocates funds for long-term water quality monitoring after the Maui wildfires on August 8, 2023. Recognizing the risks of urban wildfires is crucial, and the proposed funding for monitoring and research initiatives is essential for ongoing recovery efforts.

As a Lahaina resident and secretary of Kahana Canoe Club, located at Hanaka'o'o beach just north of the burn zone, the importance of coastal water quality testing is monumental. To protect our ocean ecosystems and near shore reefs is something our club takes very seriously. Also to protect our paddlers who enter the water daily, long-term testing will provide an asset to all.

I urge you to pass HB1840 to safeguard our community and set a precedent for addressing environmental challenges statewide post-urban fires.

Mahalo,

Katie Austin

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 2:06:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Craig Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Having DLNR support our state's dire need for water quality monitoring is a long time coming and will make a huge difference in all state agency mandates who rely on such data, such as DOH. DLNR is especially well suited to support these efforts and I applaud this bill as a water quality expert.

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 3:07:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica dos Santos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Members of the Hawai`i Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for H.B. No. 1840, H.D. 1, which seeks to address the urgent need for long-term monitoring of water quality and pollution detection in areas impacted by urban wildfires. As a concerned citizen deeply committed to the preservation of our environment and the well-being of our communities, I urge you to vote in favor of this crucial legislation.

The findings of the House of Representatives' environmental remediation working group underscore the serious environmental threats posed by wildfires that engulf urban areas. Unlike natural wildfires, urban fires release a multitude of toxic chemicals and contaminants into the environment, including coastal waters. Materials such as household appliances, vehicles, and construction materials burned in these fires can leave behind hazardous residues that pose significant risks to aquatic ecosystems and public health.

Conducting comprehensive nearshore coastal water quality testing and contaminant monitoring is essential to assess both the immediate and long-term impacts of wildfires on our marine environments. The appropriation outlined in H.B. No. 1840, H.D. 1, provides critical funding resources to support ongoing monitoring efforts and pollution source detection. By investing in state-of-the-art instrumentation and personnel, we can enhance our capacity to identify and mitigate environmental contamination, safeguarding the health of our coastal ecosystems and the communities that rely on them.

Furthermore, supporting research efforts to characterize organic compounds and emerging contaminants in coastal waters is essential for developing informed strategies for environmental remediation and protection. By expanding our understanding of the chemical composition of marine pollutants, we can better assess the risks posed to marine life and human health, and implement targeted interventions to address pollution sources.

In light of the pressing need to protect our coastal environments from the devastating impacts of urban wildfires, I urge you to prioritize the passage of H.B. No. 1840, H.D. 1. By allocating resources for long-term water quality monitoring and pollution detection, we can take proactive steps to preserve Hawai`i's natural beauty and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue and for your commitment to environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,

Jessica dos Santos

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 7:47:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorena Martinez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1840 HD1. Please continue prioritizing public health and environmental monitoring/testing.

Mahalo,

Lorena Martinez
Resident of West Maui

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 6:13:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tarsis Rich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT

HB-1840-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:43:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/26/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shalom Costa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please continue monitoring water and environmental quality for our people and children. We are one, what affects me will affect you. 🙏