

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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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

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

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Interim Director



before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND &
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Monday, February 5, 2024, 1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
SB 3300
RELATING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT.

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

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** SB3300 to minimize the risk to any development within the designated special management areas from sea level rise and other coastal hazards.

The OPSD recommends amendments to (F) proposed and added to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 205A-26(3) by SB 3300 as follows:

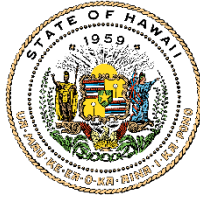
(3) The authority shall seek to minimize, where reasonable:

- (F) Any ~~[risk to]~~ development that would be under risk [from] of sea level rise and other coastal hazards ~~[, which may be accomplished]~~ by ~~[sitting habitable structures]~~ locating development outside of the sea level rise exposure area or adapting ~~[habitable structures]~~ development [within the sea level rise exposure area] to accommodate sea level rise and other coastal hazards; provided that the sea level rise exposure area shall be ~~[designated]~~ as adopted by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission or its successor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

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

Monday, February 5, 2024
1:15 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3300
RELATING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Senate Bill 3300 proposes to amend Section 205A-26, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) to require county planning commissions, county councils, and designated authorities on coastal zone management to seek to minimize, where reasonable, any risk to development from sea level rise and other coastal hazards. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the bill, and offers the following comments:**

The amendment proposed in this bill acknowledges the real risk posed to development due to sea level rise and related coastal hazards and seeks to shift development away from the shoreline.

As written, the amendment focuses on the risk to development, whereas the remainder of the special management area guidelines focus on the risk to natural resources. The Department suggests the following amendment to the bill, which we believe are consistent with the intent of Senate Bill 3300 and better match the language of HRS Chapter 205A:

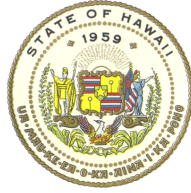
At page 7, lines 9-19, of this bill:

(3) The authority shall seek to minimize, where reasonable:

(F) Any ~~risk to~~ development that would adversely affect natural shoreline processes and pose a risk to the public trust resources due to exposure to ~~from~~ sea level rise and other coastal hazards, ~~which may be accomplished~~ by siting ~~habitable~~ structures outside of the sea level

rise exposure area as designated by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission or its successor, or by adapting habitable existing structures within the sea level rise exposure area to accommodate sea level rise; ~~provided that the sea level rise exposure area shall be designated by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission or its successor.~~

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



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Co-Chairs:
Chair, DLNR
Director, OPSD

Commissioners:
Chair, Senate AEN
Chair, Senate WTL
Chair, House EEP
Chair, House WAL
Chairperson, HTA
Chairperson, DOA
CEO, OHA
Chairperson, DHHL
Director, DBEDT
Director, DOT
Director, DOH
Chairperson, DOE
Director, C+C DPP
Director, Maui DP
Director, Hawaii DP
Director, Kaua'i DP
The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of
Leah Laramée
Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

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

**Monday, February 5, 2024
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference**

**In support of
SENATE BILL 3300
RELATING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT**

Senate Bill 3300 proposes to amend Section 205A-26, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), to require county planning commissions, county councils, and designated authorities on coastal zone management to seek to minimize, where reasonable, any risk to development from sea level rise and other coastal hazards. **The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this bill.**

The Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. As sea level rise continues to accelerate, the State of Hawai'i must maintain a constant and ongoing effort to adopt policies and programs to support adaptation to a changing world. The State must maintain a diligent focus on continual and ongoing improvement of community engagement, laws, regulations, and policies to meet the challenge ahead and safeguarding our cultural and natural resources while also providing adaptation tools to the people of Hawai'i in an equitable manner. The amendment proposed in this bill acknowledges the real risk posed to development due to sea level rise and related coastal hazards, and seeks to shift development away from the shoreline. The Commission has conferred with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and concurs with their recommended language.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

LATE

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water & Land
Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environmental
Tuesday, February 5, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

By

Charles "Chip" Fletcher, PhD

Interim Dean

School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Darren Lerner, PhD

Director, Sea Grant College Program

Name, Dean or Director

And

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 3300 – RELATING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Chairs Inouye and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Elefante and Richards, 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 3300**, which requires county planning commissions, county councils, and designated authorities on coastal zone management to seek to minimize, where reasonable, any risk to development from sea level rise and other coastal hazards.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC support this measure because further development within the sea level rise exposure area will increase the vulnerability of coastal communities to coastal hazards and may ultimately lead to damage and loss of critical infrastructure and natural ecosystems due to increased threats from coastal hazards and climate change..

Hawaii Sea Grant and CRC suggest a minor amendment to clarify this intent applies to critical infrastructure, not just habitable dwellings. SB3300 proposed an amendment to Section 2 Section 205A-26.3(F), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to read (suggested amendments underlined).

"§205A-26 Special management area guidelines. Any risk to development from sea level rise and other coastal hazards, which may be accomplished by siting habitable structures **and critical infrastructure** outside of the sea level rise exposure area or adapting habitable structures and **critical infrastructure** within the sea level rise exposure area to accommodate sea level rise; provided that the sea level rise exposure area shall be designated by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission or its successor."

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 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.

The research that goes into identifying Hawai'i's exposure to sea level rise is coming out of the University of Hawai'i School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology. To maintain our understanding of sea level threats based on the latest science, these researchers need ongoing financial support from the State. CRC would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

CRC and Hawai'i Sea Grant support Senate Bill 3300. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



TESTIMONY FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND and AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

SB 3300, RELATING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **supports** SB 3300, relating to coastal zone management. Pursuant to the “Public Safety and Disaster and Emergency preparedness” section of the official Democratic Party of Hawai'i platform, the party believes “that climate change is real, affirms human activity as its primary cause and main driver, and supports emergency preparedness and planning efforts to mitigate its impacts, including development of early warning systems, emergency management and response systems, and emergency sheltering.”

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding. Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area—one-third of which is designated for urban use—without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Last year, we witnessed the impact of the climate emergency on our shores. On August 8, 2023, wildfires swept across Maui and killed at least 100 people, making it one of the nation's deadliest natural disasters. The spread of the fires has been attributed to climate change conditions, such as unusually dry landscapes and the confluence of a strong high-pressure system to the north and Hurricane Dora to the south. The wildfires destroyed over 2,200 structures, including numerous residential buildings, historic landmarks, and school facilities. In September 2023, a report from the United States Department of Commerce estimated the total economic damage of the wildfires to be roughly \$5.5 billion. Investing in renewable energy generation could not be more urgent, given the growing threat of climate-induced catastrophes to our island home.

Therefore, **our state should take steps to accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy and continue our fight against climate change, including by strengthening coastal zone management planning to minimize risk from sea level rise and enhance climate change adaptation.** The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in its *Summary for Policymakers in Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report*, stated that that "[s]ea level rise is unavoidable for centuries to millennia due to continuing deep ocean warming and ice sheet melt, and sea levels will remain elevated for thousands of years," regardless of whether humans slow carbon emissions into the atmosphere. We must act now to protect our society from future harm.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kris Coffield

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee

(808) 679-7454

kriscoffield@gmail.com

Abby Simmons

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee

(808) 352-6818

abbyalana808@gmail.com

LATE

SB-3300

Submitted on: 2/4/2024 2:47:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/5/2024 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support sb3300, we must take steps to address sea level rise in our coastal zone management areas.

Mahalo for your commitment to our communities,

Tamara Paltin

SB-3300

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:50:26 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/5/2024 1:15:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise E Antolini	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha WTL Chair Inouye, AEN Chair Gabbard and WTL/AEN Committee members,

I write in strong support of SB3300 - Requiring county planning commissions, county councils, and designated authorities on coastal zone management to seek to minimize, where reasonable, any risk to development from sea level rise and other coastal hazards.

Given our experience on the North Shore of O‘ahu with devastating coastal erosion, sea level rise, and development failures, it is essential that HRS 205A be amended to minimize ill-advised coastal development facing these risks.

Mahalo!

Denise