

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**

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023
3:00 p.m.**

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 88, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO COASTAL EROSION**

House Bill 88, House Draft 1 proposes to implement a two-year program to study sand movement patterns and coastal erosion along the coast between Sunset Beach Park and 'Ehukai Beach Park on the north shore of O'ahu. **The Department of Land Natural Resources (Department) supports the measure.**

The proposed study will examine the impact of sandbag walls, tarps, rocks placed in the shoreline, sand pushing, and coastal restoration on beach processes.

The Department notes that the impact of these activities on beach processes have been well studied. Temporary erosion control devices such as sandbag walls can have similar effects as concrete and rock seawalls. We also note that there are land uses that can have a positive effect on beach processes, such as the restoration of coastal vegetation at the county beach parks in the area.

The Department appreciates that the study will examine the impact of a variety of activities and land uses, and believes that a detailed study on a focused geographic area will assist the State in developing a stronger management framework for protecting our natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 88, H.D. 1, RELATING TO COASTAL EROSION.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND AND ON HIGHER EDUCATION

DATE: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Candace J. Park, Deputy Attorney General

Chairs Inouye and Kim and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General offers the following comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to combat coastal erosion in Hawai'i by (1) requiring the University of Hawai'i to establish and implement a two-year program to study sand movement patterns and coastal erosion along the coast between Sunset Beach Park and Ehukai Beach Park; (2) requiring the University of Hawai'i to submit a report of its findings and recommendations of the program, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2025; (3) between July 1, 2023, and December 31, 2025, prohibiting homeowners in the State from installing or using a sandbag wall unless authorized by an emergency permit from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and (4) appropriating funds to the University of Hawai'i for the study.

Section 6 of article X of the Hawai'i State Constitution gives the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university." Section 6 further provides: "[t]his section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern." If the Committee decides to pass this bill, we recommend an amendment that adds a statement identifying this bill as a law of statewide concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

by

Vassilis L. Syrmos, Vice President for Research and Innovation
University of Hawai'i System

HB 88 HD1 – RELATING TO COASTAL EROSION

Chairs Inouye and Kim, Vice Chairs Elefante and Kidani, and Members of the
Committees:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) offers its continued support HB 88 HD1 which
establishes and appropriates funds for UH to conduct a two-year study on sand
movement patterns and coastal erosion between Sunset Beach and 'Ehukai Beach
Park on O'ahu.

The Hawai'i Sea Grant's excellent research, education and policy efforts combined with
working, technical solutions from the UH Mānoa's College of Engineering Coastal
Erosion Shoreline Team in geotechnics, transportation, infrastructure and shoreline
hardening, provides the full range of skillsets necessary to conduct this important study.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-88-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 12:55:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/21/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this Bill because it's findings will help all determine the best way to deal with sand loss and rising sea levels on all islands in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

HB-88-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 12:57:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/21/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE: Year 3000? Funny. The reality will always be that the seasonal changing tides and currents have always affected the sandy shoreline on the northern sides of the islands. In short, this bill is politically posturing and therefore a complete waste of time.