



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

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

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Monday, February 24, 2025 at 2:00 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

And

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### HB 3 HD1 – RELATING TO BEACH MANAGEMENT ON THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) and the Climate Resilience Collaborative (CRC) support and offer comments on House Bill 3 HD1, which extends the deadline for Hawaii Sea Grant to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan (NSBMP) to the governor and legislature by one year to December 1, 2026. This extension is necessary in order to ensure the project has sufficient time for community engagement and outreach as part of the NSBMP as detailed in the enacting legislation Act 226 sessions of law 2024.

Hawaii Sea Grant and the CRC offer the suggested language below be included to amend HB 3 HD2 to ensure the appropriated funds for this project do not lapse at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2025) while the project end date is extended. "SECTION 3. Moneys appropriated pursuant to section 3 of this Act shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which the money has been appropriated; provided that any money appropriated pursuant to section 3 of this Act that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2026, shall lapse on that date."

This measure, if passed, will support the NSBMP as an important coastal management, adaptation planning and community engagement model for other coastal communities struggling with coastal hazards and sea level rise and can facilitate improved community-focused coastal planning statewide.

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'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 and Hawai'i Sea Grant support House Bill 3 HD1, provided its adoption does not impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents Approved Budget. 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 HAWAII'  
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  
CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE  
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 House Committee on  
FINANCE

Monday, February 24, 2025  
2:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 308 & Videoconference

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 3 HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO BEACH MANAGEMENT ON THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU

House Bill 3 House Draft 1 proposes to extend the deadline for the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant program to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan to the Governor and Legislature. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the bill.**

The Department supports proactive adaptation planning for the impacts of coastal erosion and sea level rise. The development of a dune and beach management plan follows up on the 2022 findings of the North Shore Coastal Resilience Working Group, which was comprised of beach advocates, community members, government officials, and representatives of the University of Hawai'i.

A beach management plan for O'ahu's North Shore presents the opportunity to focus on the ecological health of an iconic beach and on the preservation of the State's public trust resources by addressing the inevitability of beach migration. The Department appreciates that the management plan will outline concrete adaptation and implementation strategies, and believes that the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program possesses the requisite understanding of both beach processes and of human activity in the area to develop an effective plan.

The Department understands that it will be challenging to complete the plan by the current deadline of December 1, 2025, and believes that extending the deadlines to December 1, 2026 presents a more realistic timeline.

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

**HB-3-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2025 12:33:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.