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

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

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, February 13, 2023
12:30 P.M.**

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1475
RELATING TO PORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

Senate Bill 1475 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to create a strategic plan for maintenance dredging of important port and harbor locations; and require the Department to complete at least two projects identified in the strategic plan. **The Department supports this measure and provides information on funding realities for dredging.**

The Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) attempted to implement a maintenance dredging program several years ago but the Legislature decided not to provide funding for the program. DOBOR has already identified locations that require continued maintenance dredging and the challenge has been the lack of funding to implement the program. The anticipated cost to implement a maintenance dredging program is \$2 million per year. The Boating Special Fund could be used to engage in a few dredging projects, but this would not be sufficient nor sustainable over the long run. The Department recommends that \$2 million per year in Capital Improvement Project funding be allocated for planning, design, permitting, and construction for a statewide maintenance dredging program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support with the requested sufficient funding on this measure.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
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LAND
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