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**LATE TESTIMONY**

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Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources

Date: Monday, February 2, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 325

HB595

1 copies (including an original)

Committee Chairman Mr. Ito and members:

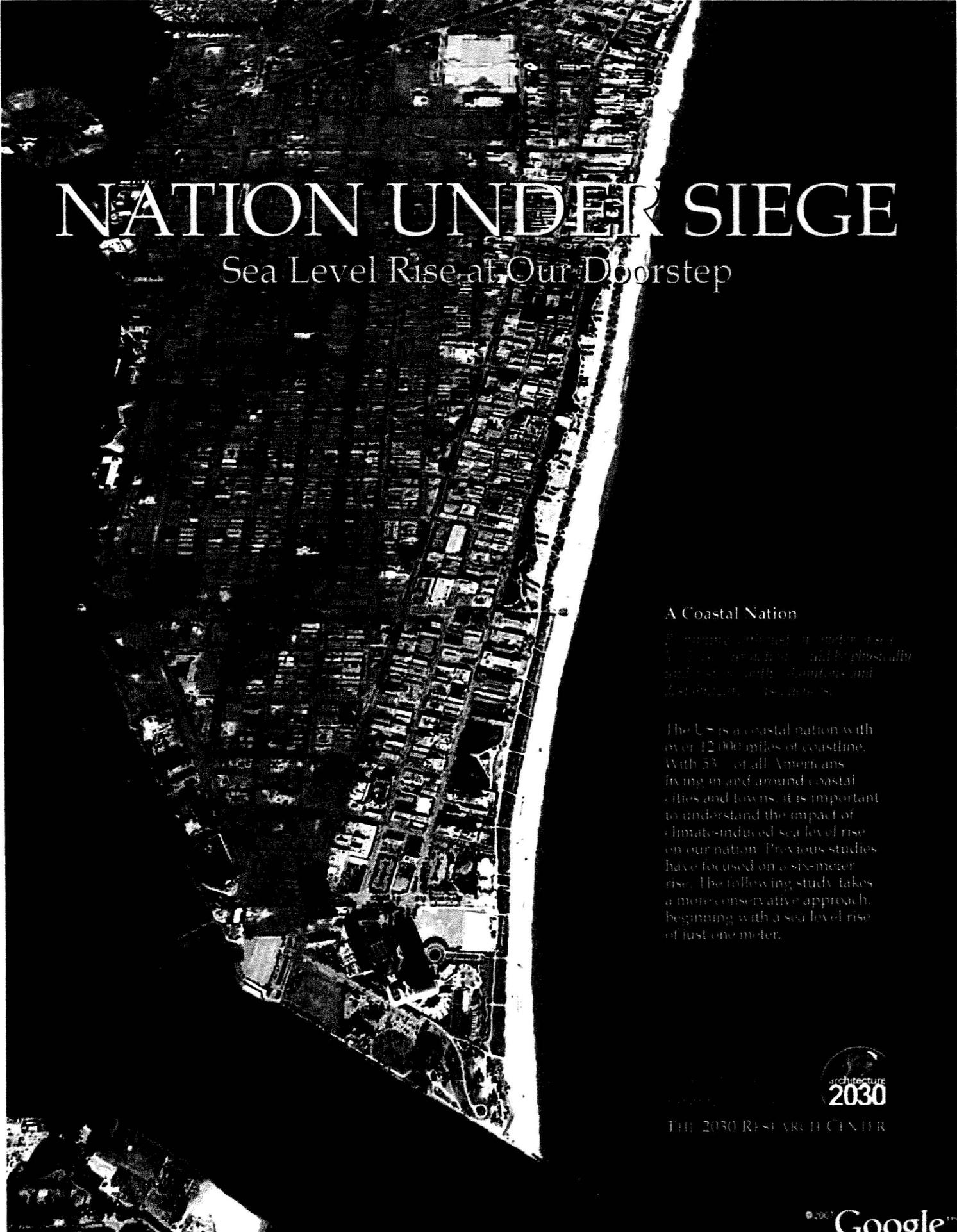
I **support** HB595!

Mahalo,

*Gwen F. Ilaban*

- The concept of World Ocean Day was established in 1992 at the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro as a way for us to reflect on the ocean's importance in our lives and take time to do something good for our blue planet.
- We need to pay attention the health of the ocean that provides so much for us in Hawaii.
- Most of the world's important coastal habitats are disappearing, and climate change and pollution are harming the coral ecosystems.
- The report by Architecture 2030 called "Nation Under Siege". A rise in sea level by 1 ¾ meters will result in downtown Honolulu being submerged. The photo is on page 13.
- It's up to each of us to help ensure that our ocean is protected and conserve it for future generations.
- There are currently major efforts encouraging the celebration of World Ocean Day underway at many leading aquariums, zoos, museums, conservation organizations and agencies.
- Since the Legislature has gone paperless, I would like to submit this CD with articles that we have collected of organizations that recognized World Ocean Day this past year.

- The Girl Scout Troop 401 asked me to request your support & designate June 8th as World Ocean Day for Hawaii. We hope you will make Hawaii the first in the nation to observe this important day. Mahalo for your support.



# NATION UNDER SIEGE

Sea Level Rise at Our Doorstep

## A Coastal Nation

*Examining the impact of a meter of sea level rise on a nation could be physically and socially costly, affecting communities and distribution systems.*

The US is a coastal nation with over 12,000 miles of coastline. With 53% of all Americans living in and around coastal cities and towns, it is important to understand the impact of climate-induced sea level rise on our nation. Previous studies have focused on a six-meter rise. The following study takes a more conservative approach, beginning with a sea level rise of just one meter.



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*Once the process of ice sheet disintegration begins, the impact on the US is unremitting, and at each additional increment, additional cities and towns will be adversely affected.*



**GALVESTON, TEXAS**  
Population: 57,247

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**GALVESTON, TEXAS - 1.5-meter sea level rise**  
Population: 57,247 Data Source: NOAA NGDC

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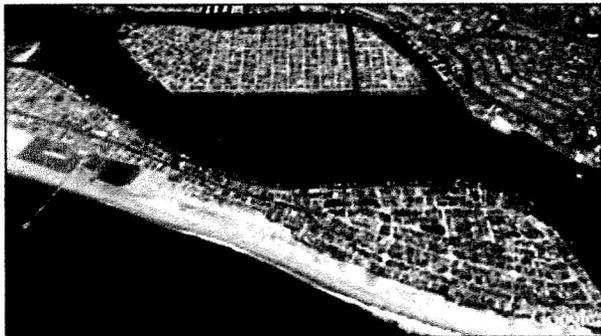
**ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY**  
Population: 40,517

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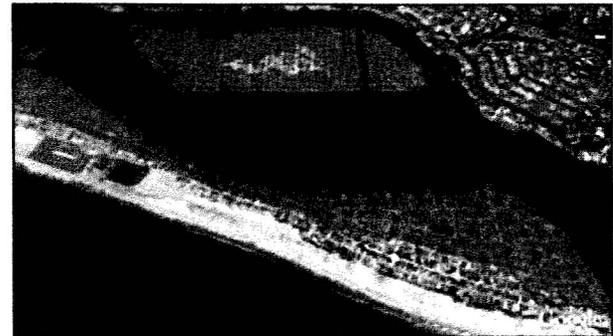
**ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY - 1.5-meter sea level rise**  
Population: 40,517 Data Source: LIDAR and USGS 10M NED

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**NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA**  
Population: 70,032

© 2030, Inc.



**NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA - 1.75-meter sea level rise**  
Population: 70,032 Data Source: USGS 10M NED

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**HONOLULU, HAWAII**  
Population: 371,657

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**HONOLULU, HAWAII - 1.75-meter sea level rise**  
Population: 371,657 Data Source: LIDAR and USGS 10M NED

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