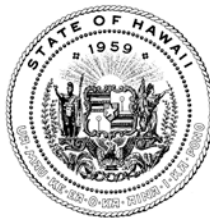


SB 499

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
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  
CARTY S. CHANG  
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT  
and  
WATER AND LAND  
and  
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Friday, February 13, 2015  
2:45 pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 499  
RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Senate Bill 499 propose to require major capital improvement projects of the State or a county involving an infrastructure improvement project or construction project to include in the environmental assessments (EA) and environmental impact statements (EIS) an analysis of environmental impacts related to projected sea level rise over the anticipated lifespan of the project. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill and offers comments for improving the bill language.**

There is strong consensus in the scientific community that rates of sea level rise will accelerate in the coming decades. Increasing rates of sea level rise will result in environmental impacts from increased occurrence and severity of coastal erosion and flooding, migration or loss of wetlands, rising groundwater levels, and changes to flow patterns in natural watersheds and engineered drainages.

Because major capital improvement projects require long term planning horizons and have long life cycles, impacts related to sea level rise should be considered at the design phase of such projects in order to minimize costly adaption measures in the future.

As you know, part of the Department's mission is to manage coastal areas and ocean resources through the Department's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL). The Department

regularly reviews EAs and EISs for the development of infrastructure in low lying coastal areas of the State. Improved science-based analysis of environmental impacts related to projected sea level rise over the anticipated lifespan of a project as required by this bill would provide vital information to improve decision making and long term community resiliency.

The Department believes that data is available to project sea level rise rates over the next century. From these rates, impacts to major development projects can be forecasted and assessed in the development review process.

The Department has the following comments regarding the bill language with suggested language for removal in brackets and strikethrough and suggested language for inclusion underlined:

1. SECTION 1. The legislature finds that because state construction projects in coastal areas are environmentally precarious, it is essential to take [~~the~~] impacts [~~of~~] related to projected sea level [~~change~~] rise into account during the planning stage in order to protect current infrastructure investments over time.
2. SECTION 2. (a) Whenever any major infrastructure improvement project or major construction project of the State or a county, including new or major modification, is proposed in any coastal lands, as defined in section 171-151, Hawaii Revised Statutes, any environmental assessment or environmental impact statement required pursuant to chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall include an analysis of [~~the environmental~~] impacts [~~of~~] related to projected sea level rise [~~or fall~~] over the anticipated lifespan of the project. The detailed analysis shall include a detailed scientifically-based methodology for evaluation of the project based on the best available information.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Testimony of  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 13, 2015  
2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 224

**S.B. 499**  
**RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Senate Committee(s) on Water & Land and Energy & Environment  
and Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

---

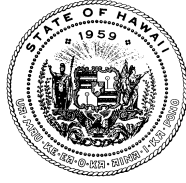
The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill, which proposes to make the impact of sea level change a consideration in any environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for a major infrastructure improvement project or major construction project proposed in any coastal lands.

However, DOT is concerned about the following language that may be problematic for its modal divisions:

- Page 1, SECTION 1, Line 7, of the bill states "*....make the impact of sea level change a **consideration** in any EA or EIS....*" but in SECTION 2, Line 17, the bill states sea level rising analysis **shall** be included in the EA/EIS. It may become problematic for the DOT if all projects require sea level analysis as those projects not located along the shoreline will not impact sea level rise. DOT suggests replacing the term "shall" with "consider including".
- Page 1, SECTION 2(a), Line 14, the bill states, "any coastal lands, as defined in Section 171-151". If this definition is used the law can be applied to any major project across the entire state. As this bill is meant to address the impact that sea level rise has on major projects, the area of analysis should be distinguished from coastal zone management (CZM) area to the shoreline and areas immediately adjacent. The DOT suggests the Special Management Area (Section 205A-22) or another distance from the shoreline be used rather than Section 171-151.
- Page 2, SECTION 2(a), Line 3, remove the text "an analysis to include detailed scientifically-based methodology for evaluation for a project" because it is unnecessary. DOT suggests amending the bill to read, "The analysis and evaluation will be based on the best available information and analysis."

- Page 2, SECTION 2(c), attaches a numerical value to define the word "major". The DOT suggests that the amount be sufficiently large so as to constitute a major project with a clear rationale as to how this amount was determined.
- Page 2, SECTION 3, the bill states, "This Act does not affect...proceedings that were begun before its effective date. Section 3 of the bill is vague and therefore very difficult to implement. Based on the language of the bill, it is difficult for DOT to determine which projects are not affected by this legislation. Section three needs to be more clearly written such that it is clear which current and future projects will be affected.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL  
235 S BERETANIA ST., SUITE 702  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
Tel. (808) 586-4185  
Fax. (808) 586-4186  
oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB 499  
RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

SENATOR LAURA H. THIELEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

SENATOR WILL ESPERO, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: February 13, 2015  
2:45 p.m.

Room Number: 224

1 **Office Testimony:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) supports the intent of  
2 SB 499, but is concerned the language may be too narrow and prefers the amendments to  
3 Chapter 343, HRS, as proposed in SB 500 (with amendments).

4 SB 499 requires the consideration of sea level change “in any environmental assessment  
5 or environmental impact state for a major capital improvement project of the State or counties  
6 that is proposed in any coastal lands.” SB 500 requires the consideration of sea level change “in  
7 any environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for a major infrastructure  
8 improvement project or major construction project proposed in any coastal lands.”

9 Currently, the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) Guidance requires  
10 applicants and agencies include climate change analysis in their environmental review  
11 documents, which must discuss how their proposed action is consistent with state and county  
12 plans, the State Plan, land use ordinances, the Ocean Resources Management Plan, and the  
13 National Flood Insurance Program, for example. That said, it would be beneficial to include  
14 requirements in statute and make the law clear.

1           OEQC recommends the bill change the focus from “sea level rise” to “climate change”  
2 so that issues such as extreme weather (i.e., floods and drought) will be addressed.

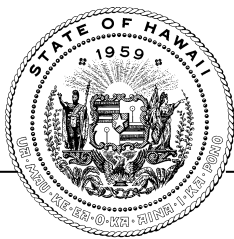
3           OEQC recommends you delete the Section 2(a) passage: “...in any coastal lands, as  
4 defined in section 171-151...” This requirement narrows the scope of the analysis significantly  
5 and could create misunderstandings, such as projects not specified in the definition in section  
6 171-151 need not analyze climate change. Alternatively, make reference instead to the “coastal  
7 zone management area” as defined in section 205A-1.

8           In section 2(a), delete the word “major and the words “...or fall...” ” from the first  
9 sentence (because it is unlikely in the context of global warming and unnecessary), and delete the  
10 words “...detailed...” (twice) in the second sentence.

11           With regards to keeping current guidance documents concerning ecological and  
12 environmental problems of coastal lands, as proposed on page 2, we offer this amendment in  
13 highlight: (b) For purposes of this section, the office shall work with the Hawai‘i Coastal Zone  
14 Management Program and relevant state agencies to provide guidance documents concerning  
15 ecological and environmental problems related to the development of the coastal zone  
16 management area.

17           In subsection 2(c), “major” is defined with a blank dollar amount. Regardless of the  
18 number, there could be problems with this approach, which is not consistent with current  
19 statutory language and could exclude actions subject to review such as programmatic  
20 environmental assessments and programmatic environmental impact statements.

21           Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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

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

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION  
ACTING DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Acting Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT,  
SENATE COMMITTEE AND WATER AND LAND,  
AND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Friday, February 13, 2015  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of  
**SB 499**  
**RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.**

Chairs Gabbard, Thielen, and Espero, Vice Chairs Green, Galuteria, and Baker, and  
Members of the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment; Water and Land; and Public  
Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs.

The Office of Planning (OP) administers Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 205A,  
the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law. The purpose of Hawaii CZM Act is to “provide for  
the effective management, beneficial use, protection, and development of the coastal zone.” See  
L. 1977, c 188, § 1.

SB 499 proposes to make the impact of sea level change a consideration in any  
environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for a major capital improvement  
project of the State or counties that is proposed in any coastal lands, as defined in HRS §  
171-151.



The OP supports the intent of SB 499, and respectfully offers comments on this measure:

- 1) SB 499 proposes to use an estimated value of a project as the threshold to define a “major” capital improvement project. The definition of “major” capital improvement project, and the rationale for the valuation threshold are not clear.
- 2) Given the concerns on the impacts of sea level rise, and a potential range of projections of sea level rise, we suggest the term “projected sea level rise or fall” on page 2, line 1, be amended to “projected sea level rise.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on  
Energy and Environment, Water and Land, and  
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Friday, February 13, 2015 at 2:45 pm

By  
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor  
And  
Charles Fletcher, Associate Dean and Professor of Geology and Geophysics  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 499 – RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Chairs Gabbard, Thielen and Espero, Vice Chairs Green, Galuteria and Baker, and members of the committees:

We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget for the University of Hawai'i.

We support the consideration of impacts related to sea level rise in any environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for major capital improvement projects.

The latest published research (Kopp et al., 2014) concludes that projected future heights of sea level for Honolulu will reach a mean of 1 ft by 2050 and 2.8 ft by 2100, and potentially a maximum of over 4.5 ft by end of the century.

In recognition of the threat of sea level rise, the Obama Administration has recently set a requirement that federal agencies plan for rising seas. Executive Order 11988 is now amended that all projects using federal funding must meet a federal flood risk standard that either:

- 1) Use data and methods “informed by best-available, actionable climate science”;
- 2) Build 2 ft above the 100-year flood elevation for standard projects, and 3 ft above for critical buildings (hospitals and evacuation centers); or
- 3) Build to the 500-year flood elevation.

The action proposed in this bill is consistent with these important steps and will result in significant savings and hazard reduction for the State of Hawai'i if implemented.

*Kopp, R.E., et al., 2014 Probabilistic 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> century sea-level projections at a global network of tide gauge sites. Earths Future. DOI:10.1002/2014EF000239*

DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
Phone: (808) 768-8480 • Fax: (808) 768-4567  
Web site: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



ROBERT J. KRONING, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

MARK YONAMINE, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2015

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair  
and Members  
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment  
State Capitol, Room 201  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
and Members  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
State Capitol, Room 231  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
and Members  
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
State Capitol, Room 206  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Thielen, Chair Espero and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 499 and Senate Bill No. 500, Relating to Environmental Impacts

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) respectfully **opposes** Senate Bill No. 499 and Senate Bill No. 500, which require major capital improvement projects of a county involving an infrastructure improvement or construction project in coastal lands to include in the environmental assessments (EAs) and environmental impact statements (EISs) an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project.

The existing rules require EAs and EISs to adequately address the probable impacts of a proposed action. The requirement that certain EAs and EISs shall address the specific impacts of sea level rise would be unnecessarily burdensome to projects for which these specific impacts are not relevant.

The Honorable Mike Gabbard  
The Honorable Laura H. Thielen  
The Honorable Will Espero  
February 9, 2015  
Page 2

For projects with environmental impacts that may include sea level rise, existing rules that require probable impacts to be comprehensively identified and addressed include the following:

Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) 11-200-16, Content Requirements:

"The contents shall fully declare the environmental implications of the proposed action and shall discuss all relevant and feasible consequences of the action..."

HAR 11-200-17, Content Requirements, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, paragraph I:

"The draft EIS shall include a statement of the probable impact of the proposed action on the environment, and impacts of the natural or human environment on the project, which shall include consideration of all phases of the action and consideration of all consequences on the environment; direct and indirect effects shall be included. The interrelationships and cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed action and other related projects shall be discussed in the draft EIS. It should be realized that several actions, in particular those that involve the construction of public facilities or structures (e.g., highways, airports, sewer systems, water resource projects, etc.) may well stimulate or induce secondary effects. These secondary effects may be equally important as, or more important than, primary effects, and shall be thoroughly discussed to fully describe the probable impact of the proposed action on the environment..."

Other paragraphs in HAR 11-200-17 require a draft EIS to address additional impacts, including the following:

- Both long-term and short term impacts (paragraph J)
- Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources, including natural and cultural resources committed to loss or destruction by the action (paragraph K)
- All probable adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided (paragraph L)
- All substantive comments and responses made during the consultation process (paragraph P)

Draft EISs are also required to consider mitigation measures proposed to avoid, minimize, rectify, or reduce environmental impacts HAR 11-200-17 (paragraph M).

The Honorable Mike Gabbard  
The Honorable Laura H. Thielen  
The Honorable Will Espero  
February 9, 2015  
Page 3

Because the existing rules adequately address comprehensive consideration of environmental impacts, the proposed requirement to adopt rules addressing the specific impacts of sea level rise in certain EISs is unnecessary and would be burdensome on projects for which these specific impacts are not relevant.

For these reasons, DDC respectfully **opposes** Senate Bill 499 and Senate Bill 500.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

  
Robert J. Kroning, P.E.  
Director

# BIA-HAWAII

## BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

### 2015 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT  
RICHARD HOBSON, JR.  
GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

PRESIDENT-ELECT  
CRAIG WASHOFSKY  
SERVCO HOME & APPLIANCE  
DISTRIBUTION

VICE PRESIDENT  
EVAN FUJIMOTO  
GRAHAM BUILDERS, INC.

TREASURER  
GUY J. SHINDO  
FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK

SECRETARY  
MICHAEL WATANABE  
JW, INC.

SPECIAL APPOINTEE-BUILDER  
PAUL D. SILEN  
HAWAIIAN DREDGING  
CONSTRUCTION CO, INC

SPECIAL APPOINTEE-BUILDER  
MARK KENNEDY  
HASEKO CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC.

SPECIAL APPOINTEE-ASSOCIATE  
DEAN UCHIDA  
SSFM INTERNATIONAL, INC.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
BRIAN K. ADACHI  
BKA BUILDERS, INC.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
GLADYS MARRONE  
BIA-HAWAII

### 2015 DIRECTORS

ANTHONY BORGE  
RMA SALES

CARLETON CHING  
CASTLE & COOKE HOMES  
HAWAII, INC.

CHRIS CHEUNG  
CC ENGINEERING &  
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

CLIFTON CRAWFORD  
C&J CONTRACTING, INC.

CURT KIRIU  
CK INDEPENDENT LIVING BUILDERS

DWIGHT MITSUNAGA  
DM PACIFIC, INC.

GARY T. OKIMOTO  
HONOLULU WOOD TREATING

JACKSON PARKER  
D.R. HORTON, SCHULER DIVISION

JENNIFER ANDREWS  
COLDWELL BANKER PACIFIC  
PROPERTIES

LILI SHINTANI  
ALAN SHINTANI, INC.

MARK HERTEL  
INTER-ISLAND SOLAR SUPPLY,  
OAHU-MAUI-HAWAII-KAUAI

SARAH LOVE  
BAYS LUNG ROSE & HOLMA

MAILING  
P.O. BOX 970967  
WAIPAHU, HAWAII  
96797-0967

STREET  
94-487 AKOKI STREET,  
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797  
P 808.847.4666  
F 808.440.1198  
E INFO@BIAHAWAII.ORG

WWW.BIAHAWAII.ORG

## Testimony to the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment, Water and Land, and Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Friday, February 13, 2015

2:45 p.m.

State Capitol - Conference Room 224

### **RE: SENATE BILLS NO. 499/500 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Chairs Gabbard, Thielen, and Espero, Vice-Chairs Green, Galuteria, and Baker, and members of the Committees:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Chief Executive Officer for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the Voice of the Construction Industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-HAWAII is **opposed** to both S.B. 499 and S.B. 500, which will require that any public or private infrastructure improvement project and/or major construction project in any coastal lands to include an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project.

As an Island State, we are all concerned about the impacts that sea level rise will have on our coastal communities statewide. As such, we believe that it would be more appropriate to have the Legislature fund an effort to have a study done of how sea level rise or fall will impact coastal communities, and develop guidelines to mitigate impacts of sea level rise/fall on all future projects in coastal communities.

Having to shift this burden on individual projects does not provide for an objective and rational approach to the state wide problem. Funding the research and developing the guidelines would provide more certainty on exactly how developments in coastal communities should be handled in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



**Conservation Council  
for Hawai'i**

*Hawai'i's voice for wildlife*

*Kō Hawai'i / leo no nā holoholona lōhiu*



Testimony Submitted to the  
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,  
Committee on Water and Land, and  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Hearing: Friday, February 13, 2015 2:45 pm, Room 224

In Support of SB 499 and SB 500

Aloha, Chairs Gabbard, Thielen, and Espero, Vice Chairs Green, Galuteria, and Baker, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 499, which requires major capital improvement projects of the State or a county involving an infrastructure improvement project or construction project to include in the environmental assessments and environmental impact statements an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project. We also support SB 500, which requires any environmental assessments and environmental impact statements for any major infrastructure improvement project or major construction project in any coastal lands to include an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project.

The two bills appear to be very similar, and the only difference we can see is the term "major" in SB 499, which may be preferable to SB 500. Either of these bills will help ensure that the taxpayers' investment in improvement and construction projects is protected.

Here is a photo of high surf on Kamehameha Highway in Ka'a'awa. Please kokua. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler



*Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.*

*Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.*

*Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.*

*Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.*

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: [info@conservehi.org](mailto:info@conservehi.org) | web: [www.conservehi.org](http://www.conservehi.org)  
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka  
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'aumoana | Koalani Kaulukukui  
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:55:15 AM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Hawaii Alliance	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [scoleman@surfrider.org](mailto:scoleman@surfrider.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 4:09:49 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Surfrider Foundation	Support	Yes

Comments: On behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's five chapters in Hawaii, I am writing in strong support of SB 499. This bill requires planning for climate change and sea level rise for any new state and county capital projects that are built in vulnerable coastal areas. This is good for both our fragile coastlines, which are eroding due to sea walls and other armoring, and for any new structures that would be washed away in future storms or inundated due to flooding from sea level rise. The bill would also require the best new scientific data on climate change and sea level rise to be included in Environmental Impact Statements and help plan for more coastal resiliency. Mahalo for your consideration and support of this bill to protect our coastal areas. Aloha, Stuart Coleman Hawaii Manager The Surfrider Foundation

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

---

OFFICERS

John Bickel, President  
Chuck Huxel, Vice-President  
Fritz Fritschel, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Guy Archer  
Juliet Begley  
Alan Burdick  
Stanley Chang

Josh Frost  
Brien Hallett  
Jan Lubin  
Stephen O'Harrow

Jim Olson  
George Simson  
Bart Dame (Alt)  
Marsha Schweitzer (Alt)

MAILING ADDRESS

PO. Box 23404  
Honolulu  
Hawai'i 96823

---

February 9, 2015

Chairs Gabbard, Thielen, and Espero and the ENE/WTL/PSM Committees

RE: SB 499 Relating to Environmental Impacts  
Hearing on Feb. 13

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization devoted to promoting progressive public policies.

We support SB 499 as it requires major capital improvement projects of the State or a county involving an infrastructure improvement project or construction project to include in the environmental assessments and environmental impact statements an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project. Although some of this may be done currently, it should be mandated that it always be done. Sea level rise is coming. For an island state, we must plan for it in every development decision we make.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel  
President

SB 499 relating to environmental impacts. fri 2/13 hearing

I support SB 499. It is a sensible measure to protect long-term investment of our tax money in public infrastructure.

Amy Kimura

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 8:51:49 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Prentiss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a member of the State Environmental Council, I support this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 12:21:35 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [leeydao@gmail.com](mailto:leeydao@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 4:42:22 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E Yadao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [justpeachy242@yahoo.com](mailto:justpeachy242@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Friday, February 13, 2015 8:41:52 AM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fawn Liebengood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lucialyou@gmail.com](mailto:lucialyou@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Friday, February 13, 2015 8:24:07 AM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucia You	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [merway@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:merway@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 7:00:55 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marjorie erway	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is vital for the continuing welfare of our State. Being an island State means that out Counties/islands are disappearing automatically. Therefore, the erosion concept needs to be carefully considered and building should reflect the likelihood of erosion. Please fully support this bill. Mahalo.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [patriciablair@msn.com](mailto:patriciablair@msn.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 4:36:30 AM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rfreitasjr@hotmail.com](mailto:rfreitasjr@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:07:53 AM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Freitas Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill!!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment and  
Committee on Water and Land and Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Friday, February 13, 2015 at 2:45 P.M.  
Conference Room 224, State Capitol**

**RE: SENATE BILL 499 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Chairs Gabbard and Thielen and Espero, Vice Chairs Green and Galuteria and Baker, and Members of the Committees:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **opposes** SB 499, which requires major capital improvement projects of the State or a county involving an infrastructure improvement project or construction project to include in the environmental assessments and environmental impact statements an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise or fall over the anticipated lifespan of the project.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

As an Island State, we are all concerned about the impacts that sea level rise will have on our coastal communities statewide. As such, we believe that it would be more appropriate to have the legislature fund an effort to have a study done of how sea level rise or fall will impact coastal communities, and develop guidelines to mitigate impacts of sea level rise/fall on all future projects in coastal communities.

Having to shift this burden on individual projects does not provide for an objective and rational approach to the statewide problem. Funding the research and developing the guidelines would provide more certainty on exactly how developments in coastal communities should be handled in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [vsc@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:vsc@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2015 12:44:09 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Cannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Include sea level rise information in both EA and EIS

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [ENETestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [anthuriumz@hotmail.com](mailto:anthuriumz@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB499 on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 2:27:27 PM

---

**SB499**

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for ENE/WTL/PSM on Feb 13, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
wynnie hee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Absolutely we need this bill. It has been mind boggling to me that SO MANY skyscrapers are being built in Kakaako; yet we KNOW with global warming we will experience sea level rise. This bill will ensure that impacts from sea level rise are considered and evaluated in order to protect public investments when state and counties infrastructure projects such as roads, sewage treatment plants, and parks are planned to be built in coastal areas. PLEASE PASS THIS BILL.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)