



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Interim Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
SB1417 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports SB1417 SD1 HD1**, which requires the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

In accordance with HRS § 225M-9, and 225M-2(b)(9) the OPSD Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM Program) and State Sustainability Branch is in ongoing coordination with HCDA to address sea level rise and climate resiliency issues. The OPSD recently provided a presentation on sea level rise adaptation to the HCDA board and also met with HCDA leadership to discuss sea level rise, climate resiliency, and sustainable development strategies within their respective districts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHASON ISHII
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
Craig K. Nakamoto, Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority

before the
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

2:00 PM

Via Videoconference, State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SB 1417, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the Committee.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports SB1417, SD1, HD1** that requires HCDA to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

If this measure is enacted, **HCDA would develop implementation rules** that consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the respective community development districts.

The agency rule-making process would likely include stakeholder outreach to identify community tolerances to climate-related hazards, such as flooding or infrastructure disruption. HCDA would also consider ways in which hazard mitigation can be designed into buildings, such as those set forth in the climate adaptation design principles for urban development that have been developed by the City and County of Honolulu. And in accordance with *Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS)*, HCDA would continue to work closely with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) to integrate the evolving science and practice of climate change mitigation and sea level rise adaptation.

Finally, we note that HCDA is subject to *HRS Chapter 205A, Coastal Zone Management*, for development within special management areas and shoreline setback variances on any lands within a community development district.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI‘I

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Charles “Chip” Fletcher, PhD
Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Darren T. Lerner, PhD
Director, Sea Grant College Program,
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 1417 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Climate Resilience Collaborative (CRC) and Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) **support SB 1417 SD1 HD1 and respectfully offer one comment.**

This measure would require the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

CRC and Hawai'i Sea Grant respectfully ask that the Committee reinsert the guidance policy from the SD1 of the measure that stated “Development shall implement design standards for new construction that require the lowest finished floor to elevate a minimum of two feet above the flood insurance rate map base flood elevation or 5.8 feet above mean higher high water, whichever is higher, based on the latest guidance from the climate change commission of the city and county of Honolulu.” This policy was removed from Section 2 of the measure on page 7 and removed from Section 3 of the measure on pages 10-11. CRC and Hawai'i Sea Grant respectfully ask that the Committee reinsert that policy.

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 would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

CRC and Hawai'i Sea Grant support SB 1417 SD1 HD1 and appreciate the Committee's consideration of our comment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony in Support of Measure
SB 1417 SD1, Relating to Climate Change

Aloha, and thank you, Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of **SB 1417 SD1**.

This bill will require the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilience development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

My name is Hueina Hemaloto, and I am currently a student pursuing my Master's Degree in Social Work. I have spent my academic focus in studying and advocating for the needs of the public, especially for populations at risk. As a pacific islander in academia, I am gravely aware of the realities of climate change, through research and personal experience. It is vital that attention is given to populations and communities that are at risk for damage from rising sea levels and other effects of climate change.

I trust and hope that this bill will ensure sustainable development within the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa communities by:

- Addressing the sea level rise and heavy rainfall in Kaka'ako
- Acknowledging the lack of drainage infrastructure in Kalaeloa

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

Hueina Hemaloto

TO: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

RE: SB1417 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT**

March 28, 2023

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the committee:

March 29, 2023 14:00
325 Via Videoconference

My name is Mary Ann Castro and I am a graduate student at University of Hawaii at Mānoa in the Department of Social Work. I am representing for myself as an individual in favor of this bill relating to climate change to consider the various impacts of climate change and how it could impact the development of site buildings of the Kaka’ako and Kalaeloa district. Growing up in this part of the neighborhood and seeing this community grow, I believe it would set precedent to further protect other areas on the island when initiating land development so we can protect the land while providing a safe environment for future residences.

The following are reasons for STRONG SUPPORT SB1417 SD1 HD1:

- To protect the future community to living there long-term and protect the land by reducing the amount of damaged buildings if they are built in ways to prevent it from taking in damages due to severe and extreme weather events.
- Hawai’i will continue to expand when it comes to building development so it should be a crucial element to factor in the possible weather changes and sea levels rising since this specific district is originally made up of fishing villages and salt flats.

I strongly urge the committee to pass SB1417 SD1 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Mary Ann N. Castro

SB-1417-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 3:58:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this common sense bill. Mahalo.

SB-1417-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/24/2023 5:53:55 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill because climate change and sea level rise are a myth.

SB-1417-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/26/2023 12:00:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cards Pintor

SB-1417-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:49:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Scofield	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sea level rise needs to be addressed immediately by the government of Hawaii. This is a problem that is inevitable and will impact Hawaii for decades. The University of Hawaii has experts in this area that need to be listened to and actions taken on their expertise. Richard Scofield

SB-1417-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:21:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Climate change and sea level rise pose significant, dangerous, and imminent threats to the state's social and economic well-being, public safety, nature and environment, cultural resources, property, infrastructure, and government functions and will likely have a disproportionate impact on low-income and otherwise vulnerable communities.

A 2017 report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration projected that 3.2 feet of global mean sea level rise will occur by 2100 in an intermediate scenario and could occur as early as the 20603 in an extreme scenario.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) plans, coordinates, and implements new infrastructure and development projects in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts on O'ahu. Kaka'ako will be threatened by the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and heavy rainfall, and the lack of drainage infrastructure in Kalaeloa makes it vulnerable to the impacts of increasingly violent storm weather.

It is in our long-term best interest to ensure that development in these communities accounts and plans for the impacts of climate change. Please pass SB1417 SD1 HD1.