



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

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, February 23, 2023, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 1159 HD1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

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

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports HB 1159 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 met with HCDA leadership to discuss sea level rise, climate resiliency, and sustainable development strategies within their respective districts. The OPSD looks forward to continued collaboration with HCDA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



‘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 & Hawaiian Affairs
Thursday, February 23, 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

HB 1159 HD1 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, 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 House Bill 1159 HD1** and recommend this Committee consider similar amendments made to its Senate companion SB 1417.

This measure requires 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.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC testified in support of this measure's companion SB 1417 to the Senate joint Committees on Agriculture & Environment and Water & Land on February 10, 2023. Based on our testimony, the Senate Committees adopted our proposed amendment to require the implementation of 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. Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC recommend this Committee also adopt this proposed addition to this measure or, in the alternative, to favor HB 1159's companion SB 1417 when it crosses over to this chamber.

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 (NOAA) that promote better understanding, conservation, and use of coastal resources.

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 working to update coastal models with more recent projections of sea level rise and to take account of other variables that impact Hawai'i's shorelines.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and the Climate Resilience Collaborative support House Bill 1159 HD1.

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
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, February 23, 2023
2:00 PM
VIA Videoconference
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
H.B. 1159, H.D.1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports H.B. 1159, H.D.1** 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.

This 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.

In accordance with *Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS)*, HCDA already works closely with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) regarding climate change mitigation and sea level rise adaptation. The notion of climate resilience considers the risk, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity associated with climate-related hazards.

These considerations are timely, especially given the continued growth of the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts along with the evolving science and practice of climate 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.



Environmental Caucus of
The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Re: **HB 1159 HD 1 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Hearing: Thursday, February 23, 2023, 2:00 p. m., Conference 325 & via Videoconference

Position: **Strong support**

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i with its membership of 7,500 enrolled voters, stands in strong support of HB 1159, HD1. This measure would require the Hawaii community development authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilient development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts.

Pursuant to the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform adopted at the DPH State Convention on May 28, 2022, our policy is to “protect and preserve Hawai'i's environment and achieve energy sustainability, advance measures to re-establish a healthy climate and environment for humans and fellow species, including actions to urgently address climate change, and work towards 100% renewable energy goals.

We believe that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy, and safe environment. We believe that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well-being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i. We support policies that create a more sustainable society. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems.

We believe in the resource management principles outlined in the Public Trust Doctrine of [Article XI, Section 1 of] the Hawai'i State Constitution. [State Constitution – LRB Legislative Reference Bureau \(hawaii.gov\)](#) We support policy that incorporates indigenous resource-management practices and technologies such as the Ahupua'a System in modern urban planning and development to create an ecologically sustainable balance between the needs of the people and the rights of nature. [OUR PLATFORM | DPH \(hawaiidemocrats.org\)](#)



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Requiring the Hawaii community development authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate resilient development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaheo community development districts is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and the policies of the Democratic Party of Hawaii Environmental Platform plank, to wit, that (1) all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy and safe environment; (2) that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well-being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i; and (3) that we support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems.

Please support and pass this bill.

/s/ Melodie Aduja & Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i



Aloha Committee Members,

My name is Arwen Revere and I am a high school student from Kailua. Today, I am representing the environmental organization Wild Kids. We are testifying in strong support of HB1159 which would Require the Hawai'i community development authority to consider the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and climate-resilient development in the design and siting of buildings in the Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa community development districts. As members of the next generation, we know just how significant, dangerous, and imminent the threat of climate change is to our state's social and economic well-being, public safety, nature and environment, cultural resources, property, infrastructure, and government resources. Many recent studies have also shown that low-income and otherwise vulnerable communities will feel the impact of the climate crisis the most.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has 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 2060 in an extreme scenario. Kaka'ako will be greatly impacted by the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and heavy rainfall, and the lack of drainage infrastructure in Kalaeloa makes the area extremely vulnerable. Please ensure that development in these communities accounts and plans for the impacts of climate change.

Thank you for hearing our testimony,
Arwen Revere on behalf of Wild Kids

HB-1159-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 10:33:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/23/2023 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 HB1159 HD1.

HB-1159-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 5:08:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/23/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is not Such thing as Climate . This is all a Big Scam that is make certin Elits Very Rich!!!!