



Ka Moku'aina 'O Hawai'i Aha Moku O Pae'Aina

State of Hawai'i Aha Moku

P. O. Box 621

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Testimony of the Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the House Committees

2/8/2023

2:00 P.M.

Conference Room 423 & Videoconference

IN SUPPORT of House Bill 1136

Relating to the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

House Bill 1136 authorizes the issuance of bonds and appropriates bond funds for the sewage system repair and replacement project and the seawall and pier repair and replacement project of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology's facility at Moku o Lo'e.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) strongly supports this measure.

Moku o Lo'e is a place dedicated to western science and Hawaiian science. It is a place where for decades Hawaiians and other community groups have met and shared their knowledge with marine biology scientists on the importance of Kaneohe Bay, its estuaries, streams that empty into the bay, and Native Hawaiian mana'o on the marine species that are found no where else in the world. It welcomes communities and students to participate in place-based science and indigenous resource management approaches. It wisely employs generational Native Hawaiians who have knowledge of Kaneohe Bay that was passed down from Kupuna for generations.

The upkeep and maintenance of Moku o Loe is critical to the continuance of learning from a place where western science and Hawaiian science can merge and learn from each other. There is no other place like it in Hawaii.

Aha Moku and Ko'olaupoko encompassing the ahupua'a of Maunaloa, Koko, Waimanalo, Kailua, Mokapu, Kaneohe, Heeia, Kahaluu, Waihee, Kaalea, Waihole, Waikane, Kakipuu, and Kualoa strongly supports HB 1136 and ask that it be adopted.

Respectfully,

Frances "Rocky" Kaluhiwa, Aha Moku Representative of Ko'olaupoko

Hawaii State Aha Moku

808-286-7955

Rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 11:29:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mindy Mizobe	Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The HIMB facilities on Moku O Lo'e are in dire need of replacing/upgrading. In order to be a responsible neighbor to the surrounding residents and organizations of Kāne'ōhe Bay we need to upkeep our facilities. This includes having a fully functional (not degrading) sewage system and a pier and seawalls that are secure and safe. The Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology is a key partner in the NERR (National Estuarine Research Reserve) system. HIMB is currently involved in this and several other projects to protect and care for the Bay and it's natural resources. The infrastructure needs to contribute to the mission of the work that we are engaged in. It needs to be maintained in order to do no harm to the surrounding environment where we are located.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water & Land
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology
February 8, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Jan Gouveia

Vice President for Administration, University of Hawai'i System
and

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

and

Charles "Chip" Fletcher, PhD

Interim Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

and

Megan Donahue, PhD

Interim Director, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

HB 1136 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY

Chairs Ichiyama and Perruso, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Kapela, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. The University supports HB 1136 to appropriate general obligation bond funding for health and safety related repairs to Moku o Lo'e (Coconut Island) so that the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) may continue its research, policy contributions, and communal developments towards advancing Hawai'i ocean health.

HIMB is a world-renowned institute located on Moku o Lo'e in Kāne'ōhe Bay. Moku o Lo'e possesses unique conditions for research, as it hosts the only research facility in the world within 100 feet of living reefs. Additionally, Kāne'ōhe Bay's pH balance and higher temperature gives researchers a living lab to investigate a future Pacific Ocean affected by climate change.

HIMB is a leader of sound research and policy at the local and global level. As a short list of examples, HIMB researchers have served on state and federal government boards and commissions to address reef health, whale and dolphin population numbers, fisheries, and nearshore water quality. Researchers from HIMB have also advised Hawai'i lawmakers and DLNR of the "30x30" goal aiming to protect 30% of state waters by 2030. Such efforts made Hawai'i the birthplace of the 30x30 motion at the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

HIMB attracts large-scale stakeholders towards the advancement of Hawai'i ocean health. Over the last three years HIMB has received over \$30M in extramural funding, including awards to develop an engineered coral reef ecosystem to help protect coastlines from flooding, erosion and storm damage, ultimately to support statewide climate resilience through data science.

HIMB utilizes its world-class facilities towards the advancement of the Hawai'i community— particularly youth. Through its countless community partnerships and large investment in K-12 education, HIMB not only elevates the quality of science in schools, but also orients the next workforce for place-based conservation, Indigenous science, and Hawai'i ocean stewardship.

Not part of the main campus, HIMB must independently oversee the entirety of its utilities, majority of which were originally developed in the 1930's and 1940's, on Moku o Lo'e by a private owner. The sewage system, which runs throughout the island and under Kāne'ohe Bay into the City and County of Honolulu's sewage system, is in poor condition and badly deteriorated. In its current state, the on-island sewer system runs the risk of spilling into Kāne'ohe Bay.

The University has comprehensively assessed the situation and has commenced initial planning and design efforts to replace the sewer system on Moku o Lo'e and improve the connection to the City's sewer system. The total project cost for design, construction, and equipment is estimated at \$10 million.

In addition to the deteriorating sewer system, the main pier and associated seawalls that provide island access to employees, researchers, visitors, school groups and community partners, and their respective supplies and equipment are crumbling into Kāne'ohe Bay. This not only presents a health and safety risk to all employees and visitors of Moku o Lo'e, but the integrity of HIMB's research and education buildings is also at risk. Failed seawalls also have a high probability of damaging the rare coral that surrounds the pier and seawall.

In order for the important work to continue on Moku o Lo'e, both the pier and seawalls need to be repaired or replaced. The piers, which act as access points to the island, were originally built in 1935. The seawalls, which prevent coastal erosion, are 50-100 years old.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1136, which would appropriate \$10,000,000 for the complete repair and replacement of the sewer system and \$2,000,000 for the plan and design of pier and seawall repairs at Moku o Lo'e. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.



To: The Honorable Chairs Ichiyama and Kim, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Kidani, and members of the Senate Committees on Water and Land and Higher Education

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing HB1136 **RELATING TO THE HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY**

Hearing: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Ichiyama and Kim, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Kidani, and members of the Committees:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean. The first meeting of HIROC was held at HIMB on Cocoanut Island.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition SUPPORTS HB1136!

Water quality in Kaneohe Bay is very important for work at Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB). The sewer system at HIMB needs repair and replacement to preserve water quality. The seawall and pier need replacement to prevent damage to rare coral and water systems.

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We thank the committee for hearing this important measure! We urge your passage of HB1136.

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:02:13 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gus Robertson	He'eia NERR	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The plans purposed in this bill are essential upgrades for Moku o Lo'e. At currently, the infrastructure on island is aging and the effects from climate change are only make the current issues worse. If this body of government wishes for Moku o Lo'e to exist in its current capacity of revenue and research. These additions must be done.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 8:34:13 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mahealani Cypher	Koolau Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Ichiyama and Perruso and Members of the Committees,

The Ko`olau Foundation strongly supports this bill to authorize issuance of bonds and funding of repairs to the sewage system and other facilities on Moku o Lo`e, operated by the UH Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.

Please pass this bill out of committee.

Mahalo for considering our mana`o.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/4/2023 12:40:53 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paolo Marra-Biggs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to help fund the repair of HIMB

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 8:01:52 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Woo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 8:43:15 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyssa VArela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 8:51:44 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Hancock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 9:22:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Dacks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology conducts world-class science, education, and outreach that honors people and place. It is a gem in our community that is looked to as a model for this type of work throughout the world. To continue its mission, it requires support for the repair of infrastructure. Without this support, we risk losing this amazing institute.

HB 1136 – RELATING TO HAWAI‘I INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY

Chair Ichiyama, Chair Perruso, and Members of the Water and Land and Higher Education and Technology Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support for HB 1136, which authorizes the issuance of bonds and appropriates bond funds for a sewage system repair and replacement project and for seawalls and pier repair and replacement at the Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) at Moku o Lo‘e.

As outlined in the bill’s language, HIMB is a world-class center of innovation for science and technology, place-based education, and indigenous resource management approaches, with a mission to advance understanding and stewardship of oceans and coasts locally and globally. HIMBs ~29 acre campus and associated facilities and programs provide direct benefits to local students and the State, are dependent on having physical infrastructure that is safe and functional for employees, students and community members to access.

My name I Malia Rivera, and I submit this testimony as an individual, and thus it doesn’t not represent official testimony of the University of Hawai‘i.

I have been at HIMB since 2005, serving as a tenured faculty member whose work focuses on K-20 marine science education and training, with an emphasis on created access to place-based marine science research experiences for Hawai‘i students and facilitating pathways to undergraduate careers in this discipline. The goal of my efforts is to increase representation in professional pathways amongst students from Hawai‘i in the fields of marine conservation and management, with the hopes of bolstering local workforce development. As a kama‘āina who grew up in ‘Āhuimanu and a graduate of James B. Castle High School, the communities around Kāne‘ohe Bay and the bay itself are special to me and thus my work is of personal importance. My programs require a safe working environment for students and staff to access and visit in order to continue serving our community.

Although administratively HIMB is part of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, its physical location at Moku o Lo‘e in Kāne‘ohe Bay means in actuality it is an entire campus unto itself. As such, HIMB shoulders the burden of the operation, maintenance and costs of the physical plant, grounds caretaking and security that other units at the University need not worry about or pay for. Many of the original facilities and infrastructure is ~90-100 years old and in a serious state of disrepair, to the point of being significant health and safety issues. The sewer system is not up to code, is incredibly fragile, and emergency patch work repairs over the years are costly band-aid measures that consume valuable financial and human resources. Falling seawalls and collapsed piers are also not only is a potentially dangerous health and safety issue, but lack of safe and adequate seawalls and piers provide a significant barrier to access not only for the employees, but for the communities and school groups that rely on HIMB’s work and educational programs. Not to mention, both failing seawalls, piers and sewer systems present worrisome

(and potentially embarrassing for the University and State) environmental and compliance consequences for ocean and reef health.

Funding for these critical repair projects is essential to HIMB's mission in service of the people of Hawai'i and would be a first step to ensuring HIMB and the university's important work in marine science informed conservation, management and education in service of the State are ensured for generations to come. These projects were identified as critical infrastructure issues nearly 25 years ago in the Long-Range Development Plan, and their status as critical increases and worsens year by year. Waiting and putting them off even further will prove to have serious and even more costly implications not only for HIMB employees, but students, community, the larger university and the state. I urge you to pass this measure.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 2:43:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mackenzie Manning	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB1136 to improve critical infrastructure to help improve and maintain the functioning of the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB). I am writing this testimony of support as a concerned individual and not on the behalf of the University of Hawai'i. HIMB is a special institution in Hawai'i with world class marine science faculty and facilities that benefit our community in many ways. It's imperative that HIMB recieves funding to support its infrastructure so that Hawai'i can continue to make significant contributions to marine science to help us understand how to manage Hawai'i's marine resources.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:59:35 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louise Packard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HIMB is a jewel -- a center for world-class research that deepens our understanding of marine ecosystems and promotes ocean health by developing solutions to the challenges of climate change. Located on Moku o Lo'e, HIMB cites its access to the coral reefs of Kaneohe Bay as distinguishing it from all other marine research institutes. A functioning sewer system that supports the research station and ensures that there is no run off into the bay is critically important. I urge the passage of this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 10:49:48 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annie Innes-Gold	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I'm a Marine Biology PhD student working at HIMB. I feel extremely fortunate to work at HIMB, and strongly support bill HB1136. There is a lot of amazing work going on at HIMB, but it clearly is in need of maintenance and repairs, including to the sewage system, seawalls, and pier. This bill would allow for these essential repairs to occur which will contribute to HIMB being able to continue to serve as a world-class center of innovation for science and technology, place-based education, and indigenous resource management approaches. Approval of bill HB1136 would be a great step in improving the infrastructure of HIMB and allowing it to continue to benefit staff, students, and community members.

Thank you,

Annie Innes-Gold

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 10:59:22 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teagan Roome	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 11:00:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Kamalani Oshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

To whom it may concern,

My name is Zack Rago and I am a 3rd year PhD student at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. I am writing this letter as an individual in support of the bill HB1136 and HB848. Having now worked at the institution for over 3 years I have seen first hand how incredibly dedicated our community is to making HIMB a one of a kind research station and holding ourselves to the highest standards of innovation and scientific excellence. Moku o Loe is a truly special place as it is the only marine research station located directly on a coral reef in the USA and is also backdropped by the beautiful Koolau range and Kaneohe Bay. That being said, the island in general is in desperate need of funds, support staff and the capacity to manage a degrading infrastructure. Seawalls around the island, including around my own experiments, are in terrible condition and quite frankly, even dangerous in certain locations. The degrading seawalls are only the tip of the iceberg. Generally the island's infrastructure is decades old and has been largely neglected despite an incredible facilities team who simply could never keep up with the number of repairs and developments that are needed to make HIMB safe, functional and more effective at producing top quality research. I firmly believe that this institution is one of the most important and unique assets to the University of Hawaii as well as to the state of Hawaii as a whole. However, this place is oozing with untapped potential that is being held back by this failing infrastructure and the inability to make significant changes without support from the state. The passing of this bill would immediately lead to positive outcomes for HIMB and our capacity to continue growing our reputation as world leader in marine science would continue on a trajectory where the state of Hawaii will be the national leaders in innovative science and technology, education and community outreach, and the professional development of countless up and coming researchers in the marine sciences.

Kindly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zack Rago". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent loop at the end of the name.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 11:45:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Holland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a frequent user of Kaneohe Bay. This bill would ensure the bay's continued healthiness by proactively preventing future accidental spills of sewage into the bay's waters. We should promote the continued revitalisation of the bay by upgrading infrastructure wherever possible.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:12:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Zill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a PhD student at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and I would like to submit testimony in support of HB1136 (and HB848). HIMB is a facility like no other. There are only a few research laboratories worldwide that provide year-round and immediate access to coral reef ecosystems, which allow for unique and important research opportunities on current topics of international interest such as climate change, coral bleaching and restoration, ocean acidification, long term monitoring projects, and overfishing, among many others.

HIMB attracts many high caliber professors and researchers who bring in prestigious grants, recruit and mentor students, and who otherwise would not be drawn to UH Manoa on its own. I personally would not have chosen to attend UH Manoa if HIMB were not a part of the university, especially due to the high cost of living and tuition that comes with attending UH Manoa; I know many graduate students who feel similarly. HIMB provides UH with a unique competitive edge over other university graduate programs that offer superior benefits, infrastructure, research funding, academic labor unions, and higher-paying and more stable graduate/teaching assistantships.

Any maintenance cost of this globally-recognized icon of marine research is minor compared to what HIMB brings to UH, Hawai'i, and the greater scientific community. Failing to adequately provide urgent financial support to HIMB would be equivalent to allowing a crown jewel of UH to sink into the ocean.

-Julie Zill, PhD candidate in the UH Marine Biology Graduate Program

Testimony in Support of HB 1136

From: Jo-Ann Leong, Director Emerita
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

Dear Committee members on Water and Land, Committee Members on Higher Education,

I write in support of HB1136 which authorizes the issuance of bonds and appropriates bond funds for the sewage system repair and replacement project and the seawall and pier repair and replacement project of the Hawaii institute of marine biology's facility at Moku o Lo'e.

The funds are sorely needed to keep HIMB's facilities operational and to provide the support its faculty and staff require to help restore the state's coral reefs, fisheries, and contribute to the knowledge needed to move the state toward a future based on sustainable resources.

Many of you have visited the facility and are aware of the need to shore up its sea walls especially in the face of rising sea levels and climate change. The facility and its faculty, staff, and students are recognized globally for their contributions to coral reef restoration, shark mitigation research, aquaculture, and fish pond restoration. It has provided opportunities for graduate, undergraduate, and grade school students to participate in these research activities and has developed a vibrant community education program. It has also become a Hawaiian place of learning with strong local community support as well.

Please do vote to pass this bill.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:17:31 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shreya Yadav	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a coral reef scientist working in Hawaii, I know the critical role that HIMB plays in the state and want to see it succeed in its efforts. I fully support this bill and hope that they are able to use the funds to repair and update their infrastructure.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:28:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine Carrier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this legislation because I see value in HIMB as a resource to both academic and local community circles. An updated sewage system is critical to prevent potential contamination of the South Kāneʻohe Bay system - a body of water that has great economic importance (used by fishermen, local families, tourists, and MCBH recreators) and academic importance (easy access to the reef ecosystem in the South Bay make HIMB an ideal research and education facility for both professional researchers and school groups from HI). An updated sewage system and repaired coastal structures also allow for continued SAFE acces to Moku o Loʻe by school groups, community groups, and resident and visiting researchers.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:52:38 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judy Lemus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1136, which appropriates bond funds for the sewage system repair and replacement project and the seawall and pier repair and replacement project of the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) facility at Moku o Lo'e.

I am a former Interim Director of HIMB and currently a faculty member specializing in science education. HIMB is a UH research facility conducting cutting edge 21st century research in support of many state needs, including coral reef and biodiversity conservation, ocean health, shoreline protection, sustainability, and science education. But the infrastructure at Moku o Lo'e is from the early 20th century, in particular the island sewer system and seawalls. The sewer system is the original cast iron pipe that has outlived its expected lifespan and is showing signs of disrepair. To avoid any risk of sewage seepage into Kaneohe Bay, with subsequent fines and stoppage of all research and education activities indefinitely, HIMB desperately needs a complete replacement of the sewer system. A halt in the research and education enterprise at HIMB would mean the loss of active partnerships with local, state and federal agencies, including those that inform and contribute to state DAR, DOT, DOE, and DOH objectives. Likewise, access to Moku o Lo'e by researchers, students, agency partners, and community members is also critical to maintain these collaborations. The targeted repair of old and crumbling seawalls at our main boat docking points (the only way to reach HIMB) will help ensure consistent access.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting this measure that is so critical to the continued viability of HIMB research and education.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:55:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yoshimi Claborn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 1136 as an individual, who is highly invested in the success of Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology. It is highly important that Moku o Lo'e, the island on which HIMB is located, is taken care of well in order to continue operations on HIMB. As an important part of the community, Moku o Lo'e is located in the southern end of Kāne'ōhe Bay and is an important asset to the He'eia ahupua'a and part of the community through the He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve. As part of this, the research and education conducted at HIMB must be done on an environment that "does no harm". By repairing the sewage system and constructing the seawalls, we will be working with the community to continue community engagement and to construct a system that works well for the environment. We must do this as a preventive measure to maintain and keep systems healthy. All of this is necessary for the amazing innovative research and education that is being conducted at HIMB.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:37:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Madin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Windward community member and scientist who is impacted by this bill, I strongly support its passage. The Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) is a world-class research institution that we are fortunate enough to have here on O'ahu which provides tangible benefits to both the global scientific community and our local community. These benefits arise through both HIMB's research and community outreach roles. The physical infrastructure of this unique island-institute suffers from a great deal of deferred maintenance, yet it is vital that HIMB's infrastructure is well-maintained so that the institute can continue to provide the people of the state of Hawai'i, and indeed the global scientific community, with these many benefits. This bill would help ensure that HIMB can continue into the long-term future and I believe it is a wise investment of funds.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:38:03 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleonani KC Hurley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Hawai'i State Legislature

I am a postdoctoral researcher at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology and I strongly support the HB1136 so that our institute can continue to function as a world-renowned center for excellence in marine and indigenous science and education.

me ke aloha,

Kaleonani Hurley

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:48:17 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I feel that it is extremely important to secure funds for the sewage system repair and replacement project and the seawall and pier repair and replacement project of the Hawaii institute of marine biology's facility at Moku o Lo'e. The current "temporary" repair of the sewer system has pipes routed above ground and seems like it is only a matter of time before they get damaged and we have an unsanitary incident. The seawalls surrounding Moku o Lo'e are steadily degrading and collapsing leading to erosion of the land. More importantly, this causes a serious decrease in operational efficacy when these areas block or decrease access, especially to piers and docks.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jason

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 1:54:42 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frederick Reppun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. The infrastructure at Moku o Lo'e desperately needs these repairs so that HIMB can continue to conduct research and education programs for the community in a safe manner.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 3:54:50 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelle Freel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of bill HB1136 which would provide crucial infrastructure support needed for the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology. I write this support as an individual and not as a representative of the University of Hawai'i. It is unacceptable that this research institute would not have adequate funding for infrastructure to properly maintain the sewer on Moku o Lo'e. Funding to maintain the island is not only essential to upkeep function at the research station but also ensures the safety of those working at HIMB and will prevent larger costs in the future which would inevitably accumulate if the infrastructure is neglected. I hope that you decide to support this bill.

Thank you very much for your time.

Kind regards,

Kelle

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 4:52:21 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HIMB must have the repairs to its sewage system and to its seawall, which are critical to prevent damage to rare coral and water systems.

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 8:39:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carl Meyer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1366.

HIMB is an internationally renowned marine laboratory and a flagship institute for the University of Hawaii at Manoa. HIMB provides outstanding educational opportunities for local, mainland and international students and conducts cutting-edge research focusing on pressing marine conservation issues of critical importance to Hawaii and globally.

To continue to perform at this level, HIMB needs a modern sustainable infrastructure and HB1366 will provide urgently needed resources to attain that goal.

This investment will actually save tax payer dollars and pay for itself going forward because the addition of substantial photovoltaic capacity made possible by HB1366 will substantially reduce or eliminate HIMBs electricity bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carl Meyer

HB-1136

Submitted on: 2/8/2023 9:17:41 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/8/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Heckman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology upkeep is critical for helping to solve many of Hawaii's ocean issues and lead the way in training our youth and families to become our next generations of ocean stewards and problem solvers. Because it is on an island, Moku o Lo'e, in Kane'ohe Bay, and because it is itself vulnerable to all the changes our bays, shorelines and ocean life are undergoing, it is a strong training ground for our keiki and up and coming reef and fisheries managers and scientists. In the past years, I recall over 3,000 of our local students would cycle through it each year, to become inspired to become that next set of problem solvers for Hawaii. Although scientists are great at getting grant money for the state and for their students, grants will not pay for infrastructure. The grant agencies somehow expect the institutes to magically come up with money for infrastructure on their own. So even if a researcher gets a multimillion dollar grant, none is allowed for the basic infrastructure to allow them to get the work done. Lets support this gem for our students and our future. Respectfully, Mark Heckman