Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
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by
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SCR 144/SR 80 PROPOSED SD1 – EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR HAWAI‘I TO
HOST THE 2016 WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support for the proposed
SCR 144/SR80 Proposed SD1 expressing the Hawai‘i State Legislature’s support for
Hawai‘i’s bid to host the 2016 World Conservation Congress of the International Union
for Conservation of Nature.

As one of the many key stakeholders in our community, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, in
partnership with our Federal, State and County governments, and the entire University
of Hawai‘i System are strong advocates to preserve and protect our fragile environment.

UH Hilo’s Master of Science in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental
Science (TCBES) prepares our students by promoting research and scholarly activities
that will enable participant to enter the scientific research community in the
interdisciplinary field of conservation biology and environmental science. Our future
leaders in the conservation field will benefit and realize the importance of their studies
for future generations.

Hawai‘i is an ideal show case for displaying our deep commitment to preserving our
natural and cultural diversity rarely available anywhere else on the planet.

We appreciate the Senate’s introduction of this measure that will provide Hawai‘i the
prestigious distinction of being the first to host this conference in the United States.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.