



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
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By
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And
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HB 1068 HD1 – RELATING TO HEEIA STATE PARK

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee:

As a unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology is an official site partner of the He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve (HeNERR), and we support HB 1068, HD1.

Now that He'eia has been designated as the 29th member of the NERRS in the Nation, the site partners have been working together with the recently-hired staff to implementing the HeNERR master plan. A key component of that master plan is to construct an education center in He'eia State Park, but doing so will require legislative support to provide for a community-based long-term plan for the park, and design plans for the education center.

As such, we are fully in support of HB 1068 HD1, and urge the Committee on Finance to approve it.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.