



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee Ways and Means
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By

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And

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HB 1487 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i strongly supports HB 1487 HD1 SD1. This measure establishes a Honolulu shoreline climate protection pilot project to develop a plan to protect urban Honolulu from the impacts of climate change and be used as a model for the entire State. In addition, this measure provides funding to start the planning process for deciding how the urban corridor will respond to climate change, and, more specifically, sea level rise, as we move into a future characterized by the strongly accelerating impacts of global warming.

We believe this is an important step to increasing the resilience of our communities. We need to move forward on the planning process immediately, as community input and eventual implementation will take time to do well and avoid maladaptation. We also strongly urge the state to approach this pilot project with a holistic and collaborative approach that integrates relevant federal and county partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.