HB 1522 – RELATING TO CLIMATE MITIGATION

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 1522 – Relating to Climate Mitigation. This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) to develop an estimated social cost of carbon and requires the State and University of Hawaii (“University”) to consider the estimated social cost of carbon in planning new infrastructure and capital improvement projects.

While the University supports the intent of this bill, we respectfully request that this measure be deferred until the PUC can determine the actual social cost of carbon for Hawai‘i. This will allow us to better understand the impacts of considering the social cost of carbon when designing and constructing new buildings, and properly evaluate the resources needed to implement this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 1522.