HB 1669 HD1 – RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai‘i (UH) supports HB 1669 HD1 which requires the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to establish a pilot program that will develop a Waikīkī adaptation and resilience plan to address the projected impacts of climate change and sea level rise in the Waikīkī special district.

Hawai‘i Sea Grant and the Climate Resiliency Initiative (formerly the Coastal Geology Group), both based in UH Mānoa’s heralded School of Ocean and Earth Sciences, provide excellent research, education and policy efforts in this domain. Combined with working, technical solutions from the UH Mānoa College of Engineering’s Coastal Erosion Shoreline Team in geotechnics, transportation, infrastructure and shoreline hardening, UH is well-suited to be a contributing member of this important pilot program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.