

## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ÕNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment Monday, February 5, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. By Vassilis L. Syrmos. Vice President for Research and Innovation University of Hawai'i System

## SB 3339 – RELATING TO THE RED HILL REMEDIATION AUTHORITY

Chairs Inouye and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Elefante and Richards, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports SB 3339, which seeks to establish the Red Hill remediation authority and creates a Red Hill remediation special fund.

While the imminent threat of future leaks has been minimized through the defueling of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, years of clean up, monitoring, research and policy making will be needed for remediation of the aquifer and the surrounding ecosystem. The creation of Red Hill remediation authority will allow the findings and recommended actions of the Red Hill WAI to be acted upon at all federal, state and county levels to ensure quick and timely actions in terms of monitoring, research, remediation, etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.