

## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## **TESTIMONY**

HB 2398 RELATING TO THE HAWAII OCEAN AND COSTAL COUNCIL

Testimony Submitted to
The Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources and Committee on Public
Safety & Military Affairs

February 3, 2006

by

Gary Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education

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Chairs Kanoho and Ito, Vice Chairs Schatz and Chong, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before you today on House Bill 2398, which would make the Hawai'i Ocean and Coastal Council permanent. The University of Hawai'i is fully supportive of this measure.

The University has participated on the Hawai'i Ocean and Coastal Council and believes that it has served an important purpose in our state, specifically by providing recommendations on issues, priorities, and specific action items for the Office of Planning to consider in their update to the State's Ocean Resources Management Plan. We believe that the Council can continue to make an important contribution to how we plan for and care for our Oceans and Coast lines.

The University of Hawai'i would be very pleased to continue our contributions to the important work of the Council.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.