Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

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by

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HB 1581, Relating to Ocean Health Consensus

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Chong, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Ostrander. I am pleased to offer my support for the intent of HB 1581 Relating to Ocean Health Consensus, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as expressed in our Board of Regents-approved Executive Biennium Budget.

We appreciate the fact that this measure would provide much-needed resources for a critical environmental education and conservation program. However, we wish to emphasize that there are other needs contained in our UH budget request that deserve consideration as well – and have been affirmed through the review process of our University administrators, Board of Regents, and Governor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.