



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senate Committee on Higher Education
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and

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SB 3036 – RELATING TO BEACH MANAGEMENT FOR THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU

Chairs Solomon and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Kahele, and members of the committees:

The UH Sea Grant strongly supports SB3036 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. This legislation endeavors to improve the scientific understanding and sustainable management of beach resources along North Shore of O'ahu from Hale'iwa to Kahuku Point. This heavily used coastal stretch is world renown for its beautiful beaches, world-class surf breaks, and marine resources and warrants a dedicated regional beach and dune management plan to conserve and sustainably manage this unique area.

The North Shore community has expressed strong interest and support for a beach management plan. The development of a regional beach management plan requires the support and participation of the community in order to ensure successful implementation of priority management strategies. In this respect UH Sea Grant also supports and encourages the planned "community conversations" to discuss the objectives of the plan and allow an opportunity for the community to share their comments, ideas and concerns for the management of this community resource.

SB3036 intends to support the development of a coastal processes study and create a north shore beach management plan, with substantial community and stakeholder input, over a two-year period. The University of Hawai'i is well positioned to carry this out and has successfully developed similar beach and dune management plans in Hawai'i including the [Kailua Beach and Dune Management Plan](#) and the [Beach Management Plan for Maui](#).

While UH Sea Grant strongly supports the overall intent of SB3036, we recommend that the proposed legislation be amended as follows:

1. Consider prioritizing the development of the management plan into distinct geographic segments or coastal sediment “cells” so the plan may focus on the most heavily-used beaches for example, Waimea Bay to Velzyland (Waiale‘e Beach).
2. Suggest the plan include discussion of both short and long-term beach management options.
3. Remove reference to condemnation of private property in the bill.
4. Delete reference to bike path planning, coastal setbacks and connecting the coastline of Turtle Bay to Hale‘iwa (Lines 17 to 19) as this may be beyond the initial scope of a beach management plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.