



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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SB 3036 SD1 – RELATING TO BEACH MANAGEMENT FOR THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU

The UH Sea Grant strongly supports SB3036 SD1 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 SD1 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 SD1, we recommend that the proposed legislation be amended as follows:

1. Page 5, Line 10-11. Remove reference to developing disaster recovery plans as part of this effort in the bill as this may be beyond the initial scope of a beach management plan. This is a more involved process that requires a different set

of stakeholders and will require its' own plan. Rewording this section to "shall consider and provide a summary...." or similar instead of "shall include..." would help.

2. Page 4 line 17. Clarify the type of "scenarios" in this section perhaps "planning and climate change...." would be sufficient. Delete reference to specific planning timeframes of 20 to 100 years. Inclusion of the terms "long and short term" would be more appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.