UNIVERSITY OF HAWAIʻI SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture
Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 2:45 p.m.
by
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and
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SCR 18 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TERM, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT COVERING PORTION OF STATE SUBMERGED LANDS AT SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU, OAHU, FOR THE USE, MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT, AND REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING FLOATING DOCK

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SCR 18. This concurrent resolution requests the authorization to issue a term, non-exclusive easement covering portions of state submerged lands fronting the property identified as tax map key: (1)1-5-041: portions of 006, at Sand Island, Oʻahu, for use, maintenance, improvement, and replacement of the existing floating dock constructed thereon, pursuant to Section 171-53, Hawaiʻi Revised Statutes (HRS). The University of Hawaiʻi supports this Administration concurrent resolution.

Due to the closure of the UH Marine Center at Pier 45 Snug Harbor Facility, the UH School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) will divide and relocate its small-boat operations to the proposed SOEST and Marine Education Training Center (METC) facilities at Sand Island. The current site at Sand Island will require improvements, which include installing a new larger floating dock, approximately 2500 square feet in area, to replace the existing floating dock fronting METC. This provides suitable space to accommodate the combined needs of SOEST, Honolulu Community College (METC), and the UH Sailing Team.

As required by Section 171-53, HRS, the Board of Land and Natural Resources (“Board”) may lease submerged lands "with the prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution". At its meeting on September 25, 2015, under agenda item D-12, the Board approved the issuance of a term, non-exclusive easement for purposes stated above.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.