Testimony Presented Before the
House Committees on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
and
Water & Land
April 14, 2016 at 10:45 a.m.
by
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor
and
Brian Taylor, Dean School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

SCR 18 SD1 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TERM, NON-EXCLUSIVE
EASEMENT COVERING A PORTION OF STATE SUBMERGED
LANDS AT SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU, OAHU, FOR THE USE,
MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT, AND REPLACEMENT OF THE
EXISTING FLOATING DOCK

Chairs Ing and Yamane, Vice Chairs Lowen and Cullen, and members of the
committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SCR 18 SD1. 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, O‘ahu, for use, maintenance, improvement, and
replacement of the existing floating dock constructed thereon, pursuant to Section 171-53,
Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS). The University of Hawai‘i 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 and Honolulu
Community College (METC).

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.