Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 23, 2007

by

Dr. Gary K. Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education &
Interim Dean for the John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

## SB 1093, SD 1 Relating to Ocean Health Consensus:

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Ostrander. I am pleased to offer my support for the intent of SB 1093, SD 1 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.