

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ÕNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. By Charles "Chip" Fletcher, PhD Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology And Darren T. Lerner, PhD Director, Sea Grant College Program, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology And Michael Bruno, Provost University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 952 HD1 - RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) and the Climate Resilience Collaborative (CRC) **support House Bill 952 HD1.**

This measure appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to address the impacts of climate change in the State.

Hawai'i Sea Grant's mission is to provide integrated research, extension, and education activities that increase understanding and use of ocean and coastal resources of the Hawaiian and Pacific Islands and support the informed personal, policy, and management decisions that are integral to realizing this vision. Hawai'i Sea Grant is part of a national network of 34 university-based programs associated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that promote better understanding, conservation, and use of coastal resources.

CRC is a multi-investigator research project at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa focused on sea level rise adaptation and climate resilience. CRC is working to update coastal models with more recent projections of sea level rise and to take account of other variables that impact Hawai'i's shorelines.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and CRC would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

Hawai'i Sea Grant and the Climate Resilience Collaborative support the intent of House Bill 952 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.