Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Water & Land House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 9:05 a.m.

By

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HB 2691 – RELATING TO THE RED HILL REMEDIATION AUTHORITY

Chairs Ichiyama and Lowen, Vice Chairs Poepoe and Cochran, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports HB 2691, which seeks to establish the Red Hill remediation authority and creates a Red Hill remediation special fund.

While the imminent threat of future leaks has been minimized through the defueling of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, years of clean up, monitoring, research and policy making will be needed for remediation of the aquifer and the surrounding ecosystem. The creation of Red Hill remediation authority will allow the findings and recommended actions of the Red Hill WAI to be acted upon at all federal, state and county levels to ensure quick and timely actions in terms of monitoring, research, remediation, etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.