



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

By
Judith Lemus, PhD
Interim Director
Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology
And
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Provost
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GM 769 – Consideration and confirmation to the Endangered Species Recovery Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAWIKA WINTER

Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Ruderman, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) offers strong support in favor of the appointment of Kawika Winter, PhD to the Endangered Species Recovery Committee (ESRC). Dr. Winters currently serves as the Reserve Manager for the He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve on O'ahu and a faculty member at the the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Dr. Winter is a multidisciplinary ecologist who has focused his research and professional career on large scale biocultural restoration of social-ecological systems in Hawai'i. He is recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Hawai'i's endangered terrestrial ecosystems. He is a current nongovernmental at-large member on the ESRC and with his re-appointment we firmly believe that his expertise and background will continue to be an asset for the State of Hawai'i.