

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
Anukriti Hittle
Coordinator, Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the SENATE Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Thursday, February 20, 2020
10:35 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In support of
SENATE BILL 2162, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE**

Co-Chairs:
Chair, DLNR
Director, Office of Planning

Commissioners:
Chair, Senate AEN
Chair, Senate WTL
Chair, House EEP
Chair, House WTH
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Director, Maui DP
Director, Hawai'i DP
Director, Kaua'i DP
The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

Senate Bill 2162, Senate Draft 1 proposes to direct the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to address areas already impacted by sea level rise, identify vulnerable critical public infrastructure, create a plan for mitigation and adaptation to sea level rise, and provide policy direction to the legislature on funding and strategies to address the impacts of climate change on the state. It also proposes to appropriate funds. **On behalf of the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) I support this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Executive Supplemental Budget.**

The Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission “recognizes the urgency of climate threats and the need to act quickly. It promotes ambitious, climate-neutral, culturally responsible strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation in a manner that is clean, equitable and resilient.” The Commission, established by Act 32 SLH 2017 to uphold the United States’ pledges under the Paris Agreement, is the coordinating body for policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation for the state. It is a high-level multi-jurisdictional body that guides the priorities of the state’s climate response. Co-chaired by DLNR and Office of Planning, it consists of 20 members—chairs of four legislative committees, and executive department heads at the county and state levels.

At its September 2018 meeting, the Climate Commission agreed to five priority recommendations for countering impacts of sea level rise, including requesting that all new development, redevelopment, and modifications be directed away from beach areas; urging counties to incorporate the 3.2 foot sea level rise exposure area (SLR-XA) as detailed in the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report (Hawaii Sea Level Rise Report) into their general and

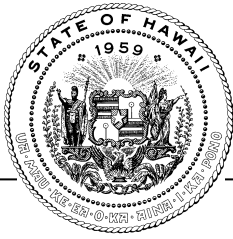
community plans; and bring resources to assist in planning and implementing for sea level rise and other climate related impacts.

This measure acts on the Commission's priority recommendations, and is a crucial component of Hawaii's adaptation to the impacts of sea level rise. In Item 3 (b), the measure requires the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to submit a proposal for a State of Hawaii supplemental insurance program for properties within the State subject to climate change impacts to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2021.

In order to clarify the direction given to the Commission, I recommend replacing the current language of Item 3 (b) with the following (underscored text is new) language: "The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission shall research and submit a report on options for a state supplemental insurance program for properties within the State subject to climate change impacts to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2021."

I appreciate the amendments made to this draft, and urge the Committee to consider them and this new recommendation favorably.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Thursday, February 20, 2020
10:35 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 2162 SD1
RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

The Office of Planning (OP) appreciates the amendments incorporated by the subject-matter committees as provided by the Department of Land and Natural Resources and supports this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. The OP looks forward to continuing to support the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com



February 20, 2020

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer *JK*

The Honorable Donavan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

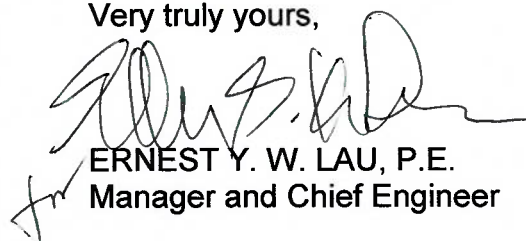
Subject: Senate Bill No. 2162, Senate Draft 1: Relating to Sea Level Rise

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports the intent of Senate Bill (SB) 2162, Senate Draft (SD) 1. This bill directs the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to bring resources to various agencies and departments in the form of best practices, formulate guidance, and provide a coordinating structure and timeframe within which to work; work with partners to operationalize sea level rise exposure areas into county planning and permitting; and work to enhance, uniformize, and support the work of state and county agencies in their development of sea level rise adaptation plans utilizing the sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report.

The BWS and the Water Research Foundation have completed a tailored collaboration study on the Impacts of Climate Change on Honolulu Water Supplies and Planning Strategies for Mitigation, which includes vulnerability of coastal water distribution infrastructure from the affects of sea level rise. The report identifies the needs and suggests prioritization criteria to raise streets, utilities and private properties through a collaborative One Water Framework that leverages common objectives of infrastructure agencies around the water cycle. The One Water Framework has been successfully applied in major cities in the nation. BWS realizes that a tremendous amount of adaptation work remains and supports the State Legislature's and State agencies efforts to advance sea level rise adaptation on Oahu.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony in support of SB 2162, SD 1.

Very truly yours,


ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

SB-2162-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 3:39:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Calvin Foo Pham	Testifying for Young Progressives Demanding Action	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I stand with the Young Progressives Demanding Action in support of this bill. Upon review of the content, I am disappointed we even need to write these policies down because the changes are stating what I thought was already law if not reasonable sense. However, if we need to go ahead and write this down to make things clear and to protect parkers, especially people who cannot afford a major financial setback because of predatory towing practices, then let's get these simple changes written into law.

Mahalo for reviewing my testimony.



SB 2162, SD1, RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE

FEBRUARY 20, 2020 · SENATE WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE · CHAIR SEN. DONOVAN DELA CRUZ

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: IMUAlliance supports SB 2162, SD1, relating to sea level rise, which requires the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to consider and make specific recommendations on sea level rise policies.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding.

Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring, like seawalls.

Furthermore, according to research conducted by Michael B. Gerrard from Columbia Law School, modern-day slavery tends to increase after natural disasters or conflicts where large numbers of people are displaced from their homes. In the decades to come, says Gerrard, **climate change will very likely lead to a significant increase in the number of people who are displaced and, thus vulnerable, to human trafficking.** While the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015

established objectives to limit global temperature increases and several international agreements are aimed at combating modern-day slavery, it is highly uncertain whether they will be adequate to cope with the scale of the problem that is likely to occur as a result of climate change.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area—one-third of which is designated for urban use—without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Therefore, our state should take steps to protect Hawai'i's coastal areas, including by identifying vulnerable public infrastructure and creating plans for mitigating and adapting to the imminent and existential threat of sea level rise. For the sake of our keiki, we cannot afford to wait to solidify strategies to preserve our island home for generations to come.



LATE

February 19, 2020

To: The Senate Committee Members on Ways and Means
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran Vice Chair

Re: Strong Support of SB2162 SD1, Relating to Sea Level Rise

Hrg: February 20, 2020 at 10:35 AM at Capitol Room 211

The Hawaii Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 600 community members, public health professionals and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public health professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

HPHA strongly supports SB2162 SD1, which would appropriate funds and direct the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to address areas already impacted by sea level rise, identify vulnerable critical public infrastructure, create a plan for mitigation and adapting to sea level rise, and provide policy direction to the Legislature on how and what funding is needed to move forward with concrete strategies to address the impacts of climate change on the State. This measure also requires the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to consider and make specific recommendations on sea level rise policies that have been implemented in other jurisdictions that may be applicable to Hawaii.

We urge support of this measure that takes steps toward reducing the impacts of climate change that will have significant health benefits.

Part of the reason climate change needs immediate attention is the threat that it poses to human life. Choices we make now will determine the magnitude of climate effects on our children and their children. Every individual will be affected by a host of challenges to daily living including a combination of extreme weather, rising sea levels, and infectious diseases, to name a few examples.

Rising sea levels will impact our quality of life by limiting access to public facilities, infrastructure, and causing the population to move to unaffected areas, which will result in densely packed communities. Flooding, standing water and mold will lead to health effects throughout our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on critical issues affecting the health of the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenaya Jackman, MPH
Board Member
Climate Change Legislative Sub-Committee Chair
Hawaii Public Health Association



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

LATE

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 211
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 10:35 A.M.**

To The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair;
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2162 RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce, with approximately 650 members. I am writing share our support of SB2162.

While we are not experts in this area, it does not take an expert to see that sea level rise is a growing problem. Sea level rise is already affecting our beaches and shorelines for residents, hotels and resort areas, and our roadways. Also, we appreciate that the commission includes experts and representatives from the counties. Therefore, we support this bill to identify critical public infrastructure and priority areas that are vulnerable to sea level rise and design impact zone maps to develop a comprehensive and long-range plans (as short term measures like sea walls have unintended impacts for neighboring properties) and make recommendations to the State Legislature. This is vital so they can properly appropriate funding and address these critical need areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter and ask that this bill be passed.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

SB-2162-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 6:40:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: