



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®

David Lassner  
President

February 9, 2022

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva  
Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Grijalva and Members of the Committee on Natural Resources:

I write you in strong support of the **Climate Adaptation Science Centers Act (CASC Act)**. As President of the University of Hawai'i, I have observed the positive impacts of cutting-edge actionable science developed through the regional and national CASCs, which is improving management and stewardship of our natural and cultural resources in federal, state, and local arenas, by informing sustainability and climate adaptation for ecosystems and the communities they support.

University of Hawai'i campuses are honored to serve as the home of the Pacific Islands Climate Adaptation Science Center (PI-CASC) host university and one of the consortium members through the active participation of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and the University of Hawai'i - Hilo, respectively. The third PI-CASC member, the University of Guam, is a strong partner working with us across the US Affiliated Pacific Islands. Our University System has a deep commitment to sustainability and environmental conservation and, as a Land Grant, Sea Grant, Space Grant, and Sun Grant university, is well-versed in supporting stakeholder-driven and actionable science through cooperative efforts among researchers, managers, and communities as is demonstrated by the activities, accomplishments, and impacts of PI-CASC since its establishment on 2012.

The CASC Act will ensure that PI-CASC, our fellow regional CASCs, and the national CASC program have the stability and flexibility to directly address unmet needs of natural and cultural resource managers by helping us to generate actionable climate science, turn research results into usable products, and focus on regional capacity building for an informed workforce of government officials and community leaders here in our Pacific region and across the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of David Lassner in black ink.

David Lassner  
President

cc: U.S. Senator Brian Schatz  
U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono  
U.S. Representative Ed Case  
U.S. Representative Kaiali'i Kahele

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