



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water and Land
March 15, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

By
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SB 895 SD1 – RELATING TO CRIMINAL TRESPASS

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Kong and members of the committee:

I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i in support of Senate Bill 895 SD1 – Relating to Criminal Trespass – which adds the offense of criminal trespass onto state lands to the penal code; and amends criminal trespass in the second degree to apply to government agricultural property regardless of whether it is fenced, enclosed, or otherwise secured.

The University of Hawai'i takes measures to ensure the safety of our students and employees but the university has experienced finding drug paraphernalia and other debris left behind by trespassers. This leads to potential health and safety concerns for not only the UH 'ohana, but the public in general. Current trespass laws apply to enclosed or fenced in areas, but it is not clear if these same trespass laws apply to unenclosed or unfenced areas, which includes many properties owned and managed by the University.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.