HB 1928 HD2, Proposed SD1 – Relating to Public Lands

Chair Kim and Chair Kokubun and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 1928 HD2, proposed SD1.

Section 6 under Article X of the Hawaii State Constitution states that the Board of Regents shall have “exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management and operation of the university.”

Hawaii Revised Statutes 304-4 states that the Board of Regents “shall have management and control of the general affairs, and exclusive jurisdiction over the internal organization and management, of the university.”

The people of the State of Hawaii voted in November 2000 to provide autonomy to the University of Hawaii and allow the Board of Regents “exclusive jurisdiction” over the management of the university and we feel that including the University of Hawaii in HB1928 would render the bill unconstitutional.

Should this joint committee consider passing out this bill, we would recommend removing Section 4 and Section 7 from the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1928 HD2, Proposed SD1.