Senate Bill No. 3087, Making an Appropriation for Job Training in Natural Resources Management

Testimony Presented Before the Committee on Higher Education Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

February 14, 2006

By

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Chairs, Hee and Kokubun and Members of the Committees:

The purpose of Senate Bill 3087 is to make an appropriation to the University of Hawai‘i to fund job training programs with organizations qualified to train applicants in natural resources management.

While the University supports the intent of the bill as it relates to the promotion of job training, the University notes that according to the Bill the University’s role is to allocate appropriated funds to organizations qualified in offering training in natural resource management. This proposal is new to the University. A dialogue has not occurred within the University relating to the alignment of the proposed program with existing University academic programs and the missions of various colleges. More information is needed by the University regarding the proposal and its relationship to the University. Notwithstanding the University’s need for more information, the University requests that should the Bill be passed, the Bill be amended to provide funding to the University to secure needed support resources to administer the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.