



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented to the
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Friday, February 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

by

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HB 913 HD1 – RELATING TO THE NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII
AUTHORITY

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) appreciates the Hawai'i State Legislature's intent to have its Animal Welfare Program provide institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) review of research involving live animals conducted by private entities leasing space at the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority (NELHA).

There is an existing fee structure for UH IACUC services provided and a system in place that can accept payment. These non-UH affiliated private entities would be responsible for all costs associated with the review.

Currently, a review of research with invertebrates is not required by federal regulations (only vertebrate research requires IACUC oversight). Any mandate put on work with invertebrates conducted by private entities at NELHA would be specific to the State of Hawai'i only.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.