



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 1:15 p.m.

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And
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HB 1029 HD1 – RELATING TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY COMMITTEE

Chairs Taniguchi and Wakai, Vice Chair Slom, and members of the committees:

House Bill 1029 proposes to amend the composition of the Endangered Species Recovery Committee by replacing the University of Hawai'i Environmental Center Director with the Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Natural Sciences. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports this bill.

Currently, Section 195D-25(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, designates the Director of the University of Hawai'i Environmental Center (UHEC) or the Director's designee to be part of the Endangered Species Recovery Committee. Due to reorganization of the UHEC, other University of Hawai'i (UH) units now have much greater resources and expertise for the level of commitment and type of analysis the Endangered Species Recovery Committee requires. The Department has discussed this amendment with UH, as well as the Director of the UHEC and it is agreed by all parties, that the UH College of Natural Sciences would provide the most appropriate membership for the Endangered Species Recovery Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.