



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

SB 2216 RELATING TO THE MAUNA KEA SUMMIT

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

February 8, 2006

By

Gary Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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

February 8, 2006

by

Gary Ostrander

SB 2216 RELATING TO THE MAUNA KEA SUMMIT

Chair Kokubun, Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to lease the Mauna Kea summit lands at a reasonable rate that reflects the cultural value of the site as well as requires the University of Hawai'i to rent or lease the Mauna Kea Observatory facilities a reasonable rate that reflects the scientific value of the site.

The University of Hawai'i has two points to make on this legislation:

1. This issue of appropriate revenue/rate determination for Mauna Kea should be addressed in the context of a universal settlement on ceded lands between the State of Hawai'i and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. The University further believes that the determination of increased rates can be tied to extending the lease terms e.g. lengthening the lease term; and
2. The sub – leases to individual telescope operators are legal and fall within the scope of the master lease between the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.