

## University of Hawaii at Manoa

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SB 1760 RELATING TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Statement for Senate Committee on Planning, Land and Water Use Management Public Hearing - February 26, 1991

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SB 1760 would amend Section 183-41 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes by deleting residential use from the uses permited in forest and water reserve zones, defines the term "open space," and provides certain housekeeping amendments.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We note that farming, flower gardening, nursuries, etc. are all uses that may be permitted in forest and water reserve zones. It would seem appropriate to permit a residence if it was in conjunction with the other permitted uses.

The definition of open space is very broad. While we concur that areas of natural scenic beauty, parks, forests, etc. are all appropriate areas to receive full consideration in terms of preservation and conservation, we are somewhat concerned that as presently drafted the language could be applied to almost any types of land and thereby inhibit some types of otherwise permitted land use.

Perhaps this potential problem could be mitigated by amending the definition of open space or open area on page 5, line 1 to read:

"Open space" or "open area" [means] <u>may include</u> any space or area....

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.