

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center

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Office of the Director

RL:0196

HB 220 and SB 138

RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES OF WILDLIFE OR PLANTS

Statement for the
House Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection
Public Hearing 15 February 1977
and
Senate Committee on Ecology, Environment and Recreation

Senate Committee on Ecology, Environment and Recreation Public Hearing 16 February 1977

> by Andrew Berger, Zoology Ruth Gay, Botany Charles Lamoureux, Botany

HB 220 and SB 138 propose a number of changes in part D of Chapter 195, Hawaii Revised Statutes. These bills appear identical to SB 1823 (1976). We have reviewed the Environmental Center statement on that bill (RL:0170, March 1, 1976) and find the comments in that statement still appropriate. They are repeated below with reference to the bills being considered this year. Neither last year's statement nor this one reflect an institutional position of the University.

The amendments proposed in these bills would provide for State participation in cooperative programs with the Federal Government, as provided in the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, thereby making Hawaii eligible to receive federal grant-in-aid funds up to two-thirds of program costs.

The proposed amendments do not change the purpose of Act 65(1975) and do not reduce State authority or increase Federal authority in matters pertaining to endangered and threatened species.

The only provision that is changed substantially is in Sec. 195D-5(b). This change would delte the statutory authority now provided to the Office of the Governor, and thus would give full authority on these matters to a single department, the DLNR.

The only additional change whose consideration is suggested by the Environmental Center is in Sec. 195D-5(c), pertaining to agreements between the DLNR and other agencies or persons. Since three-or-more-party agreements would be possible, we suggest substituting the word "and" for the word "or" on page 4, line 9. The statement would ten read: "... the department may enter into agreements with flederal agencies, other departments of the State government, the various counties of this State, and with private persons."