DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the House Committee on FINANCE

Thursday, March 3, 2016 2:00 pm State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1029 RELATING TO THE ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY COMMITTEE

House Bill 1029 proposes to amend the composition of the Endangered Species Recovery Committee by replacing the University of Hawaii Environmental Center Director with the Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Natural Sciences. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this bill.**

Currently, Section 195D-25(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, designates the Director of the University of Hawaii 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 Hawaii (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, and it is agreed by all parties, including the UHEC, that the UH College of Natural Sciences would provide the most appropriate membership for the Endangered Species Recovery Committee.

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA

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