DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





CARTY S. CHANG INTERIM CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of CARTY S. CHANG Interim Chairperson

Before the House Committee on WATER & LAND

Friday, February 06, 2015 9:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1136 RELATING TO CONSERVATION

House Bill 1136 proposes to direct the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to execute, if practicable, a memorandum of understanding that includes all necessary terms and conditions for the joint enforcement of conservation laws, rules, and ordinances. **The Department appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department believes that formalizing collaboration with other law enforcement agencies to jointly enforce conservation laws, rules and ordinances would strengthen the protection of Hawaii's unique and limited natural resources. While the Department currently has informal working relationships with relevant federal and county law enforcement agencies, the Department would request the opportunity to explore the implications of formally establishing such a memorandum of understanding as provided for in this measure.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's interest in strengthening the protection of Hawaii's natural resources.