

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Environmental Center

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HB 1563
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN CULTURAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs and Housing

Public Hearing - February 4, 1995 8:30 A.M., Room 1111, SOT

By
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Suzanne Tiapula, School of Law

HB 1563 would require government agencies to prepare a Native Hawaiian cultural impact statement for any development activity which entails cultural impacts.

Our statement on this measure does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Existing provisions, both under Chapter 343 and in the EIS Rules (Title 11, Chapter 200, Hawaii Administrative Rules) require assessment of cultural impacts to be included among other considerations during project assessment. To the degree that the assessment proposed in this measure duplicates existing review requirements, that assessment probably is unnecessary. However, for proposed actions which lie outside existing triggers of the EIS system, there is no question but that such review is crucial and should be consistently undertaken.