SB 1204
RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Senate Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection

Public Hearing - February 8, 1995
1:00 P.M., Room 305 SOT

By
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SB 1204 would restore the position of deputy director for environmental health within the department of health (DOH).

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

Other than the chronic and shameful inadequacy of funding support, lack of coordination between offices is the most frequently cited problem inherent in the government’s environmental management performance. Restoration of this position will provide for supervisory coordination of the many offices in DOH whose functions are crucial for the maintenance and management of environmental programs, many of which operate under a federal mandate. However, it will not alleviate the problem completely. Lack of coordination between line agencies with environmental charges will require the direct intervention and strong leadership of the governor if it is to be eliminated.

We note that funding for this position is provided only through June 30th of this year, so additional resources must be allocated to ensure that the position does not vanish once again.