HB 1591 would amend Section 205-4(g), HRS, to require the land use commission to act on a petition to amend a district boundary no later than one year after the proper filing of a petition.

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

Although landowners may be rightfully dismayed by protracted land use decisionmaking, often, facts which emerge in the course of hearings may require more time for investigation and consideration. Additional studies may be required, as in the case of soil stability questions raised last year in the Luinakoa Development project. Controversies over water availability similarly have necessitated extended deliberations regarding development on Lanai.

A possible solution might be achieved by inserting the words "or agreed to by the applicant" after "court" on line 6, page 1. Then, if the applicant refuses an extension, the land use commission would have grounds to deny the application.