HB 2505
RELATING TO HISTORIC PROPERTIES

House Committees on
Water and Land Use Planning and
Ocean Recreation and Marine Resources

Joint Public Hearing - February 9, 1996
8:30 A.M., Room 312, State Capitol

By
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HB 2505 would amend §342D-6.5, HRS, to extend preferential treatment accorded Hawaiian fishponds with regard to certain permitting processes to all historic properties registered pursuant to §6E-2.

Our statement on this measure is compiled from voluntarily submitted opinions of the listed academic reviewers, and as such does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Although the proposed measure appears to offer beneficial advantages to archaeological data recovery efforts, we strongly urge caution in the advancement of this bill. The term, excavation added on page 2, lines 4 and 10 applies not only to archaeological digs, but to fishponds as well. During debate last session over HB 1763, from which §342D-6.5 arose, much concern was voiced over use of mechanized methods for fishpond restoration, and potential extensive environmental impacts which might result. Note that normal assessment of possible impacts of such activities pursuant to Chapter 343 is inapplicable in this case, due to the exemption of Hawaiian fishponds from the environmental impact statement law (ref. §183B-2, HRS).