AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION BY LEASE OF CERTAIN SUBMERGED LANDS
AND LANDS BENEATH TIDAL WATERS OF THE STATE

Statement for Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources
April 11, 1990

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The resolves of this resolution authorize various entities of the state
government to dispose of certain submerged lands in Honolulu Harbor for the
purpose of reclamation of these lands in accordance with the Aloha Tower Development Plan.

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

While not so specifically stated, we assume that the hashed line area
shown on the map of Honolulu Harbor attached to SCR 96 represents the
submerged land area for "reclamation" in accordance with the first be it resolved clause. We also interpret the term "reclamation" to mean "filled". Assuming that these interpretations are correct we offer the following
comments for consideration in your decision making on SCR 96.

Extention of the present fast land area adjacent to 9, 10, 11, and 12 as
shown on the map attached to SCR 96, will reduce the width of the entry
access to the eastern section of Honolulu Harbor by almost 50 percent. We
would expect this reduction to significantly affect the circulation and
hence the water quality of this section of the harbor and may also affect
the tidal exchange and water quality of Nuuanu Stream.

Consideration must also be given to the effects of the reduced harbor
entrance on ship traffic and navigational safety. Furthermore, it is
important to know if the smaller entrance will eliminate or restrict certain
on going barge, fishing, freight or passenger uses in this area.

The potential effects of this filling should be fully assessed prior to
the states-entering-into any non-revocable, binding commitments of submerged
lands for reclamation.