HB 380 HD 1
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Statement for
House Committee on
Judiciary
Public Hearing - March 5, 1987

By
Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center
Ray Tabata, Sea Grant
James Parrish, Hawaii Cooperative Fishery Research Unit
Peter Rappa, Sea Grant

HB 380 HD 1 would amend HRS 343-3, -6, and -7 to permit persons or agencies, other than the agency which prepared the assessment, to appeal a determination that a statement is or is not required to the Environmental Council.

The statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We strongly support the purpose of HB 380 and concur with the Standing Committee Report No. 220.

Provision for administrative appeal to the Environmental Council of the determination that an EIS is or is not required will significantly improve the environmental assessment process. The amendments proposed will allow for a timely and unbiased review of an environmental determination by a neutral, but informed, Environmental Council, thus reducing the burden on the courts and the appealing party.
The Environmental Center presented the attached statement on HB 380 H.D. 1 on March 5, 1987, before the House Committee on Judiciary. The statement presented at that time remains applicable to this hearing.

Attachment