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SB 2601
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES RELATING TO
MANGANESE NODULE PROCESSING

Statement for
Senate Committee on
Ecology, Environment, and Recreation
Public Hearing - 20 February 1980

By
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SB 2601 would make an appropriation for environmental studies relating to a manganese nodule processing industry. This statement on the bill does not represent an institutional position of the University.

It appears that there is a considerable potential for the establishment of a manganese nodule processing industry in Hawaii. The location of such an industry, the nature of the tailings and other wastes of the industry, the means and sites for disposal of the wastes, and the environmental impacts of the disposal are at present unknown. The nature, means and sites, and environmental impacts of the waste disposal should be ascertained before approvals are given to the establishment of the industry. In order to minimize delays in the approval process, it is highly desirable that the State determine as well as possible these environmental factors before formal application for approval is made. The appropriation proposed in SB 2601 would encourage the Department of Planning and Economic Development to continue and expand their investigation of these environmental factors and provide support for the expansion.