

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center

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RL:01024

HB 3062 RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

> House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection Judiciary Health Higher Education and the Arts

Public Hearing - January 31, 1992 8:30 AM, Rm 1310

By John T. Harrison, Environmental Center Clifford Smith, Botany Charles Lamoureux, Lyon Arboretum

HB 3062 would convert the special natural area reserve fund to a revolving fund, and provide for an annual transfer of income from the public land trust into that fund of not more than \$4,000,000. Annual infusion of up to the same amount into the forest stewardship fund also shall be made from the proceeds and income of the public land trust.

Our statement on this bill does not reflet an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

This administration-sponsored measure addresses the need for dedicated funding for the natural area and forest stewardship partnerships. Because of prior uncertainties over the long term sustainability of funding for these programs, private landowners have expressed some hesitancy in committing their properties. This measure should provide the funding security necessary to allay the concerns of prospective private partners in these worthwhile conservation programs.