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**HB 3403 HD 1 HSCR 661-90
RELATING TO FOREST RESERVES**

**Statement for Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources
March 16, 1990**

By

**Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center
Clifford Smith, Botany/Cooperative National Park Resources Studies
William Grannis, Environmental Center
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HB 3403 institutes a tree planting program on suitable state controlled lands.

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

We applaud this bill's recognition of the importance of reforestation with endemic Hawaiian biota. In addition we suggest that attention be given to state lands that have been converted from forest to ranchland that are not currently being used for cattle grazing. Planting of koa and other endemic trees must be done in appropriate areas where conditions exist for the success of the trees. In some areas, such as the Big Island, reforestation would provide increased bird habitat and improve watershed areas.