



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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HB 2531 HD1  
RELATING TO NATURAL AREA RESERVES SYSTEM

Statement for  
Senate Committee on  
Planning and Environment  
Public Hearing - March 21, 1988

By  
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HB 2531 HD 1 would amend HRS Chapter 195-9 to clarify the purposes for which the Natural Area Reserve Fund can be used and stipulates that the fund shall be held in a separate account from all other monies, funds, and accounts.

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

Present language of HRS 195 limits the use of the natural area reserve fund to the heritage program and narrowly defines the heritage program as being limited to a natural resource inventory data base of rare plants, animals and natural communities (ecosystems) in the State. HB 2531 HD 1 would broaden the permitted uses of the fund to include both management needs and the acquisition of private lands for new reserves. Furthermore, by establishing a clearly separated accounting system for the natural area reserve funds, contributions from private donors will be encouraged.

The proposed amendments should enhance the protection and management of Hawaii's natural area reserves, and we support the intent of HB 2531 HD 1.