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HB 3290 RELATING TO WILDLIFE AND GAME MANAGEMENT

House Committee on Water and Land Use Planning

Public Hearing - January 30, 1996
9:00 A.M., Room 312, State Capitol

By
John T. Harrison, Environmental Center
Cliff Smith, Botany
Andrew Tomlinson, Geography

HB 3290 would amend §183D-5 to increase penalties for violations of various sections of the Wildlife and Game Management Statute.

Our statement on this measure is compiled from voluntarily submitted opinions of the listed academic reviewers, and as such, does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Increases in penalties and the requirement that imposed fines be mandatory are measures likely to effectuate the deterrent against hunting violations covered in these sections. We note with approval the provision that community service may be performed in lieu of a monetary penalty. This will have the effect of reducing the financial burden on violators who cannot afford the fine, while offering opportunities for education of offenders.

We suggest that the measure may be enhanced by adding the provision that penalties include forfeiture of hunting licences for at least a year. This would increase the level of deterrence against willful violation of hunting statutes.