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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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LAND
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY**

**Monday, February 6, 2017
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 991
RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS ON CERTAIN STATE LANDS**

Senate Bill 991 proposes to decriminalize traffic infractions within natural area reserves, game management areas, wildlife sanctuaries, and public hunting areas. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this Administration measure.**

Act 101, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, included an amendment to Section 184-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to decriminalize traffic violations within the Department's State Park System. This bill proposes to similarly decriminalize traffic violations in lands managed by the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. This bill proposes to simplify resolution of minor criminal offenses, reducing effort and resources expended to resolve minor criminal offenses for the Department, the police, prosecutors, and the Judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this Administration measure.