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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1030, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE AQUATIC LIFE AND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEES

House Bill 1030, House Draft 1 proposes to repeal the Aquatic Life and Wildlife Advisory Committees (Committees) and make conforming amendments. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this Administration bill and offers the following comments.**

The Department has implemented the Fiscal Biennium 2021-2023 Program Review to identify ways to: 1) reduce expenditures; 2) identify programs, functions, and activities that, although well-intentioned, are of marginal benefit, low performing, or of lesser priority; and 3) identify cost-saving opportunities in core and primary programs and services through tightening program eligibility, reducing program benefits, improving efficiency, or cost shifting due to anticipated budget reductions resulting from the impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19).

After thorough review and scrutiny, the Department has determined that the Committees have rarely convened or been needed, and as such, are outdated. While this bill would reduce the size of the Animal Species Advisory Commission by removing the chairs of the Committees as members of the Animal Species Advisory Commission, the Department believes that there is sufficient representation on the Animal Species Advisory Commission to carry out its duties. The Department remains able to administratively convene a similar advisory committee if it deems necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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