

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2532, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

House Bill 2532, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) for the management and recovery actions related to the two-lined spittlebug, a pest of pasture grasses. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's natural resources, agriculture, and economy, and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's residents and visitors. The Department works closely with the DOA on cross-sector invasive species issues via the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC). HISC previously awarded research funds to understand the biology of the two-lined spittlebug and is aware of significant investment from DOA to mitigate spittlebug impacts. Though the primary target of the spittlebug, kikuyu grass, is itself an invasive grass, the Department recognizes the importance of kikuyu grass to beef production.

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
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**MARCH 11, 2020
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2532 HD1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2532 HD1, relating to invasive species. The bill appropriates funds from the general fund for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be expended by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug, and to fund recovery efforts including but not limited to reducing the two-lined spittlebug population using insecticides, integrating weed management measures in affected rangelands, and reseeding pastures damaged by infestations. It also directs the Department to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty (20) days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2021, which documents the expenditure of funds and the progress of activities funded by this measure. The Department supports this measure and offers a comment.

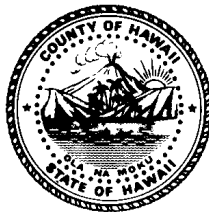
Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawai'i's agriculture and economy. Funding for control of invasive species is critical to ensure that appropriate responses can be implemented and maintained which mitigate negative impacts on the environment and economy. The Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan guides these efforts. Although the primary target of the spittlebug, kikuyu grass, is itself an invasive



grass, the grass is widely used for pastures and the Department feels that protecting these pastures is in the best interest of the State, as it is in line with the Department's mission of growing local food production and protecting agricultural capacity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267
FAX: (808) 323-4786
EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740*

March 5, 2020

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
ON HB 2532 HD 1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

1:15 p.m.

Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2532 HD 1 relating to invasive species. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug, to fund outreach, education, surveillance, treatment, and pest management protocols. The two-lined spittlebug is an invasive insect that attacks key forage grasses used by livestock ranching. The pest has damaged nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land and the damage does not allow for regrowth, requiring ranchers to totally replant affected pastures. The pest is rapidly expanding its range and now covers more than 222 square miles. Cattle production is an economic engine for the State particularly on the Island of Hawai'i where nearly sixty percent of the State's cattle is raised. This pest is threatening both job and food security making it crucial to address infestations and to restrict further spreading. Appropriating funds to get some control on this invasive species will only benefit the State.

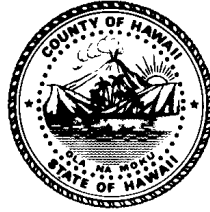
For the reasons stated above I urge the Committee on Agriculture and Environment to support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Villegas'.

Rebecca Villegas
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

Harry Kim
Mayor



Roy Takemoto
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Apuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 9, 2020

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair
Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Committee Members:

RE: HB 2532, HD1 Relating to Invasive Species

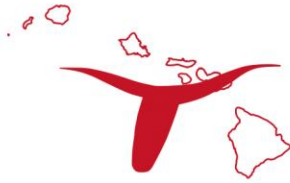
In the past three years, the Council of Mayors has identified invasive species as a top priority that deserves everyone's attention. Our best efforts at the county level are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests, and limited resources make it imperative that the State, counties, Feds, and private sector work together in pursuing solutions to what often seem intractable problems. This Legislature has really stood up, and hopefully will do even more this year.

It can be discouraging to think of how many different invasive species are plaguing Hawai'i, and with the possible exception (so far) of the parakeet problem, it seems that Hawai'i County has suffered a disproportionate share of the damage caused by invasive species, including rapid ohia death, little fire ants, coqui frogs, coffee berry borer, miconia, two-lined spittlebug, and probably others. But we cannot give up. And since, as a county, we do not have the resources or expertise to fight these devastating invaders on our own, we need as much assistance from the State as you can offer.

While I would defer to others as to how precious dollars should be allocated, I strongly endorse the investment of funds in combatting invasives, and therefore urge passage of HB 2532, HD1 in some form. Please provide as much money as you can manage, broaden the initiative if you think it appropriate, include positions and funding in your proposal for the State budget, and let's move forward.

Respectfully Submitted,


Harry Kim
MAYOR



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Russel E Ruderman, Vice Chair

HB2532 HD1

Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for its efforts to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State. Takes effect on 7/1/2150. (HD1)

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 1:15 p.m.

Conference Room 224, State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports HB2532** relating to invasive species.

Two-lined spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii in September 2016 where it had caused damage to nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land. Monthly pasture surveys that began in November 2017 have revealed that the pest has rapidly expanded its range and as of October of 2019 infests over 222 sq. miles or about 142,468 acres. It is imperative that we stop the spread of the Two-lined Spittlebug and assist ranchers affected in recovery efforts.

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures by killing key forage species outright, or by decreasing the nutritional value, palatability, and productivity of key forages. This promotes the establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds with no economic or other value, while significantly reducing the quality of foraging grasses. Reseeding areas denuded by the Two-lined Spittlebug will protect from runoff and provide forage for cattle.

Recovery efforts for ranches affected by Two-lined Spittlebug include brush management, herbaceous weed treatment, range planting, forage and biomass planting, and fencing and prescribed grazing. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council currently holds monthly meetings to keep up to date on this issue and work towards finding solutions. This group includes CTAHR researchers, HDOA, HISC, BIISC, affected ranchers, and ranchers who are at threat.

The potential impact on the cattle industry could be devastating. We **strongly support HB2532** for funds to be appropriated to aid in recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and also aim to work towards preventing the spread of the invasive species.

Nicole Galase
Managing Director





March 5, 2020

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

**Testimony in Support of HB 2532, H.D.1, Relating to Agriculture
(Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture [DOA] for efforts to
mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State.)**

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 1:15 p.m., in Conference Room 224

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and utility companies. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 2532, H.D.1** and of the various agricultural stakeholder groups who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture in Hawaii.

HB 2532, H.D.1. This bill proposes to appropriate funds out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for the DOA to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State. The moneys shall be used to fund recovery efforts including reducing the two-lined spittlebug population using insecticides, integrating weed management measures, and reseeded pastures damaged by infestations.

LURF's Position. Invasive species such as insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, tourism, the natural environment, native species and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. Invasive species already cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native wet, moist and dry land forests, and the spread of disease, but many more harmful pests, such as the two-lined spittlebug now threaten to infest and damage pasture lands, reducing the quality of forage pastures, and thereby impairing livestock ranching, which is a highly productive, expanding, and extremely valuable industry on all islands with an estimated current annual value of more than \$68 million.

LURF members include property owners, farmers and ranchers who own, maintain, and engage in agricultural enterprises, and who consider efforts to protect and support agriculture significant to the continued conduct of their operations and to help sustain and preserve farming and ranching businesses into the future. The two-lined spittlebugs threaten job and food security in the agricultural and ranching industries, as well as throughout the State, making it vital to address infestations and restrict further uncontrolled spread.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 2532, H.D.1** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 9:19:22 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Moore	Testifying for Kealia Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 9:22:07 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Testifying for Kukaiau Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

My name is David De Luz, Jr.

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures. This promotes the establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds with no economic or other value, while significantly reducing the quality of foraging grasses. Reseeding areas denuded by the Two-lined Spittlebug will protect from runoff and provide forage for cattle.

The potential impact on the cattle industry could be devastating. We strongly support HB2532 for funds to be appropriated to aid in recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and also aim to work towards preventing the spread of the invasive species.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support and submit this testimony.

Mahalo!

David S. De Luz, Jr.

Kukaiau Ranch

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 1:10:30 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bobby Farias	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Hawaii Meats LLC	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2020 5:48:21 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

Ponoholo Ranch **strongly supports HB2532** relating to invasive species.

Two-lined spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii in September 2016 where it had caused damage to nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land. Monthly pasture surveys that began in in November 2017 have revealed that the pest has rapidly expanded its range and as of October of 2019 infests over 222 sq. miles or about 142,468 acres. It is imperative that we stop the spread of the Two-lined Spittlebug and assist ranchers affected in recovery efforts.

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures by killing key forage species outright, or by decreasing the nutritional value, palatability, and productivity of key forages. This promotes the establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds with no economic or other value, while significantly reducing the quality of foraging grasses. Reseeding areas denuded by the Two-lined Spittlebug will protect from runoff and provide forage for cattle.

Recovery efforts for ranches affected by Two-lined Spittlebug include brush management, herbaceous weed treatment, range planting, forage and biomass planting, and fencing and prescribed grazing. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council currently holds monthly meetings to keep up to date on this issue and work towards finding solutions. This group includes CTAHR researchers, HDOA, HISC, BIISC, affected ranchers, and ranchers who are at threat.

The potential impact on the cattle industry could be devastating. We **strongly support HB2532** for funds to be appropriated to aid in recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and also aim to work towards preventing the spread of the invasive species.

LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC
PO BOX 27
KUNIA, HAWAII 96759
(808) 688-2892

HB2532hd1, Relating to Invasive Species
Sen AEN Hearing
Wednesday, March 11, 2020
1:15pm
Conference Room 224

Testimony by: Larry Jeffs
Position: Support

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Sen AEN Committee:

I am Larry Jeffs, owner and operator of Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The two-lined spittle bug is originally native to the southern United States but was first discovered on the Big Island in 2016. There are signs that the pest is moving northward to areas like Pu'u Wa'awa'a. This invasive pest has affected hundreds of thousands of acres of cattle grazing land on the Big Island—with no effective solutions so far. An unchecked infestation can reduce entire pastures to dust to be replaced with weeds that cattle cannot eat. (Hawaii Tribune Herald, Feb. 7, 2020)

Livestock ranching has an estimated annual value of \$68 million with 142,000 beef cattle on 1,300 ranches---60% are raised on the Big Island. It's an industry that is striving to bring local food to Hawaii consumers.

The appropriations request for the Department of Agriculture to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug is needed and supported to move Hawaii towards food import replacement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 — 1:15 p.m. — Room 224

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 2532 HD 1, Relating to Invasive Species.

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Hennessey, and I am the Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve our community's quality of life by creating more locally produced food; increasing affordable clean renewable energy and transportation options; and better managing waste and fresh water resources.

Ulupono supports HB 2532 HD 1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for its efforts to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State.

Ulupono supports the State's goal to increase local food production, which includes strengthening the local livestock industry. The Two-lined Spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona on Hawai'i Island in September 2016 where it damaged roughly 2,000 acres of pastureland. As of October 2019, damage from infestation has skyrocketed to about 142,468 acres of rangelands on Hawai'i Island. In highly infested areas, there is 100% die-off of key pasture grasses such as Kikuyu and Pangola. Rapid spread and die-off due to this pest are affecting the local livestock industry and pose a massive threat to production on Hawai'i Island.

Increasing State resources to support the local livestock industry will be crucial in maintaining the growth of local livestock production and meeting State food production goals.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Amy Hennessey, APR
Senior Vice President, Communications & External Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 11, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 2532, HD1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Room 224
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

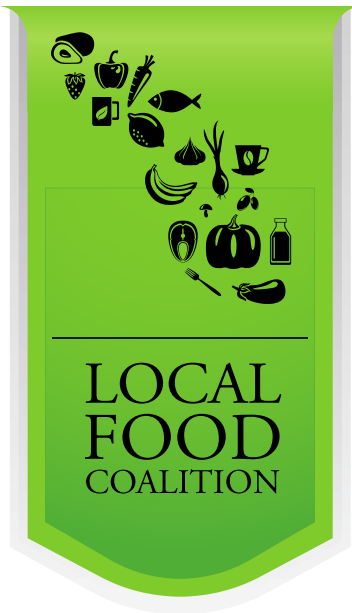
HFB supports HB 2532, HD1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for its efforts to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State

Two-lined spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii in September 2016 where it had caused damage to nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land. Monthly pasture surveys that began in November 2017 have revealed that the pest has rapidly expanded its range and as of October of 2019 infests over 222 sq. miles or about 142,468 acres. It is imperative that we stop the spread of the Two-lined Spittlebug and assist ranchers affected in recovery efforts.

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures by killing key forage species outright, or by decreasing the nutritional value, palatability, and productivity of key forages. This promotes the establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds with no economic or other value, while significantly reducing the quality of foraging grasses. Reseeding areas denuded by the Two-lined Spittlebug will protect from runoff and provide forage for cattle.

Recovery efforts for ranches affected by Two-lined Spittlebug include brush management, herbaceous weed treatment, range planting, forage, and biomass planting, and fencing and prescribed grazing.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
March 11, 2020 – 1:15 P.M. - Room 224

RE: HB 2532 HD1 - Relating to Invasive Species – In Support

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition supports HB 2532 HD1 which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for its efforts to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State.

Two-lined spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii in September of 2016 where it had caused damage to nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land. Monthly pasture surveys that began in November of 2017 have revealed that the pest has rapidly expanded its range and as of October of 2019 infests over 222 square miles or about 142,468 acres.

The potential impact on the cattle industry could be devastating as the two-lined spittlebug was discovered at similar elevations to those of the areas around Waimea, where the majority of the cattle in Hawaii are raised. The two-lined spittlebug kills the grasses completely, providing conditions conducive for the growth of invasive species, weeds and lower forage quality grasses. Financial support is critically needed now to provide the necessary tools for controlling this pest. If research does not continue to find ways to stop the spread of the two-lined spittlebug, there could be a negative impact on local food production.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawaii's food supply.

We respectfully request your support of HB 2532 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John Garibaldi
808-544-8319
jgaribaldi@wik.com

Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council
Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation
Hawai'i Farmers' Union United
Hawai'i Food Industry Association
Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association
Kohala Center
Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i
Maui Farm to School Network (Maui F2SN)
Ulupono Initiative
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources - University of Hawai'i at Manoa

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:48:55 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Weidenbach	Testifying for Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association strongly supports HB2532 HD1 to address the very problematic two-lined spittle bug which is decimating Hawaii's important pasture lands and beyond and posing a serious threat to Hawaii's important ranching sector.

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 5:47:58 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmy Greenwell	Testifying for Palani Ranch	Support	No

Comments:

We strongly support passage of this bill to provide critical support through DoA for the ongoing efforts to contain and recover from the devastation caused by the spittlebug on Hawaii Island. The rapid spread of the damaged acreage from 2000 ac in 2016 to over 135,000 ac today speaks to the seriousness of this threat. It wipes out the two basic grasses (kikuyu and pangola) which are the dominant and mainstay forages in the 2000 to 5000 foot elevation. Remember that a rancher is basically a grass farmer who uses cattle as both a management tool in stewarding these lands as well as a means of harvesting the grass's value generating a revenue source that allows the ranchers to continue to operate. This all translates into keeping stewardship boots on the ground. No grass means no revenue to support stewardship and no stewardship of our natural resources translates into a reduction or loss in value of the ecosystem services that can flow from these lands to the benefit of the broader community. These services include carbon sequestration, watershed enhancement, soil retention, habitat management, wildfire mitigation, and the preservation of cultural values associated with these lands and those that valued and worked them for generations. Thank you for supporting this bill.

From: [Michelle Gorham](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: Continue to Support Two-Lined Spittlebug Legislation
Date: Friday, March 6, 2020 2:30:31 PM

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment,

Agriculture in Hawaii is important.

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures. This leaves a vacant space in the landscape for invasive species, which quickly colonize. The establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds is a detriment to our economy and environment - there is no economic or other value to this pest or the resulting process.

The cattle industry is already experiencing negative effects and the long-term results could be devastating. We have the opportunity to take quick action. I strongly support HB2532 for funds to be appropriated to aid in recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and also aim to work towards preventing the spread of the invasive species.

Warm Regards,
Michelle Gorham

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 8:37:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 12:01:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2532-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 12:10:41 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/11/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Multiple Testifier List for HB 2532

Theresa Thompson

Woody Child

Alex Franco

Christopher English

Will Pavao

Frank Boteilho

From: [Chris English](#)
To: [AEN Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for HB2532 HD1, Wednesday March 11th, 1:15pm Rm 224
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2020 6:07:40 AM

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment,

My name is Christopher English,

Two-lined Spittlebug infestations in Hawaii have been shown to dramatically reduce the forage quantity and quality of pastures. This promotes the establishment and proliferation of invasive weeds with no economic or other value, while significantly reducing the quality of foraging grasses. Reseeding areas denuded by the Two-lined Spittlebug will protect from runoff and provide forage for cattle.

The potential impact on the cattle industry could be devastating. We strongly support HB2532 for funds to be appropriated to aid in recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and also aim to work towards preventing the spread of the invasive species.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher English