

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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**FEBRUARY 9, 2022
10:00 AM
VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1714
RELATING TO TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS**

Chairperson Hashem and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1714, relating to two-lined spittlebugs. The bill appropriates funds from general fund for fiscal year 2022-2023 to be expended by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug, including but not limited to reducing the two-lined spittlebug population using insecticides, integrating weed management measures in affected rangelands, and reseeded pastures damaged by infestations. The bill also requires the Department to report on progress and potential legislation needed to the Legislature. The Department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the Department's priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

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 agriculture, the environment, and the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

By
Nicholas Comerford, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1714 – RELATING TO TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1714.

The two-lined spittlebug is another challenge to the biosecurity of Hawai'i agriculture. The bill does a credible job of describing the problem and its potential effect. The spittlebug will continue to degrade Hawai'i Island pasture and affect livestock operations if a coherent integrated pest management program is not identified and extended to producers. This problem will require the combined efforts of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA), the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UHM/CTAHR), and the appropriate federal agencies on Hawai'i Island.

UHM/CTAHR is currently involved with spittlebug research and Extension efforts through an Extension Specialist on Hawai'i Island and a Professor of Entomology on the Mānoa campus. There is also a clear role for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR-4) program, which could also be a source of federal funds. The IR-4 mission is to test the efficacy of pesticides and develop data to label the chemistry for specific uses.

HB 1714 budgets funds to combat this pest, and puts those funds and decision making authority in the hands of the HDOA. We strongly support this effort as UHM/CTAHR already works closely with HDOA on this and on other biosecurity issues.

We support HB 1714, but defer to the HDOA as to their priorities and availability of personnel to support this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1714

February 9, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 325 and Videoconference

RELATING TO TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 1714 appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 to the Department of Agriculture for mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug (TLSB), which includes reducing the TLSB population using insecticides, integrating weed management measures in affected rangelands, and re-seeding pastures damaged by infestations.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 9, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1714
RELATING TO TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference
10:00 AM

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Perruso, 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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports HB 1714, which appropriates funds to DOA for the mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest.

The 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. We must 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.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 — 10:00 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 1714, Relating to Two-Lined Spittlebugs.

Dear Chair Hashem and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food; renewable energy and clean transportation; and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono supports HB 1714, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for the mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest.

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,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



February 8, 2022

Comments in Support of HB 1714, Relating to Two-Lined Spittlebugs (Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture [DOA] for the mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest)

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room 325 and Via Video Conference

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 1714** 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 1714. This bill proposes to appropriate funds to be expended by the DOA to mitigate and control two-lined spittlebug infestations in the State. The moneys shall be used to fund mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug, including reduction of the two-lined spittlebug population through the use of insecticides, integration of weed management measures in affected rangelands, and reseedling of pastures damaged by infestations.

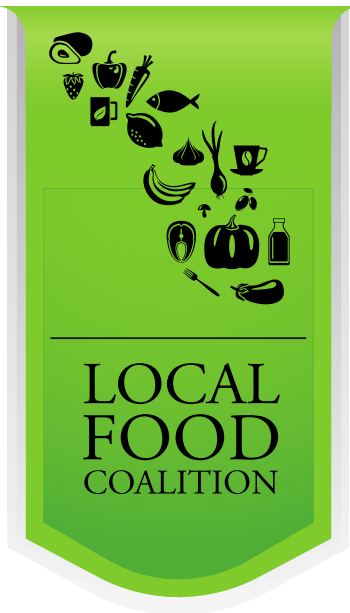
LURF's Position. Invasive species such as insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, tourism, the natural environment, native species and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people. Invasive species already cause millions 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.

As potentially devastating threats to food safety and security continue to be a significant concern, LURF and its members appreciate this measure being taken to assist agricultural stakeholders.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 1714** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

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



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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
February 9, 2022 – 10:00 a.m. – Via Videoconference

**RE: HB 1714 - Relating to Two-lined Spittlebugs –
In Support**

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition **supports** HB 1714 which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) for the mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest.

The two-lined spittlebug was first detected in Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii in September 2016, where it had caused damage nearly 2,000 acres of pasture land. As of September 2021, it has infested over 278 square miles or about 178,369 acres.

The two-lined spittlebug severely impacts the cattle industry as it kills the grass completely, providing conditions conducive to the growth of invasive species, weeds and lower forage quality grasses. While much has been done to address this issue, which included funding by the Legislature last session, more support and funding are needed to continue the efforts of the DOA and all stakeholders in mitigating and controlling the two-lined spittlebug population in the state. This effort should include assistance to ranchers as well as continued research to understand best practices for addressing the two-lined spittlebug. We need to continue to find ways to stop the spread of this invasive species to avoid 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 1714. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Kendall Matsuyoshi
808-544-8345
kmatsuyoshi@wik.com



The House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture
February 9, 2022
10:00 a.m. via Videoconference

Testimony in Support of HB 1714

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **is in strong support of HB 1714, Relating to Two-lined Spittlebug.** The aim of this measure is to provide funding for control of the two-lined spittlebug and restoration related to damage caused by the pest.

Invasive species harm every sector of society, directly or indirectly. This pest causes direct harm to forage grasses, which impacts the ability of ranchers to produce local food and export products to other markets.

For many invasive species that reach our shores, there is a great deal of research and development that is needed to identify effective control techniques. The two-lined spittlebug is no exception. We urge you to pass HB 1714 to provide funds for ongoing work to address this invasive pest. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Chair

Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

HB1714

Relating to Two-lined Spittlebugs

Wednesday, Feb 9, 2022, 10:00 AM

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports HB1714** to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for the control of the Two-lined Spittlebug (TLSB) and recovery of rangelands damaged by the invasive pest. We appreciate that the legislature understands the implications of this invasive species and therefore appropriated funding toward this issue in the 2021 legislative session. Ranchers are awaiting access to those funds, but continue to deploy efforts to curb the spread of the Twolined Spittlebug, and further years of investment in control and research is necessary. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council has been holding consistent meetings to keep up to date on this issue and work towards finding solutions. This group includes NRCS, CTAHR researchers, HDOA, HISC, BIISC affected ranchers, and ranchers who are at threat. Outcomes include a website (www.tlsbhawaii.com), several informational videos, and outreach via webinars and conventions, and radio spots to raise awareness.

Both assistance to ranchers as well as continued research is needed to understand best practices for addressing the Twolined Spittlebug. We respectfully ask that HB1217 is amended to include research activities on page 3, lines 8- 15:

- SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug, including reduction of the two-lined spittlebug population through the use of insecticides, integration of weed management measures in affected rangelands, and reseeding of pastures damaged by infestations, **and research to inform best practices and monitor status of the two-lined spittlebug.**

We are aware that there are many pressing issues that need funding, but this invasive species directly affects food production. Hawaii Island is responsible for 80% of the state's cattle production, so an outbreak of this invasive species will be devastating not only to cattle ranchers, but to our endeavor for food security. This invasive species issue affects all of Hawaii, not just the cattle ranchers. 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 September 2021 infests 178,369 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.

Healthy grazing lands are integral to watershed health and function in Hawaii. The Two-lined Spittlebug severely disturbs the Hawaiian grazing land plant community by killing the grass. This loss of living ground cover leaves the land vulnerable to soil loss which contributes to sediment-laden runoff into our near shore coastal waters, affecting coral reef health. Healthy coral reefs provide important services such as shoreline protection, marine ecosystem habitats that support important food chains that also help support our communities. Invasive weeds move in on these degraded lands, changing the entire character of the landscape hindering not only agriculture, but also other land management efforts, and recreational uses such as forest and wildlife conservation projects, hiking and hunting, not to mention the change to the aesthetic value of the land.

Ranchers in Hawaii are working hard to try to find cost-effective ways to adapt to this new challenge and to keep their lands healthy and productive, but the task is too big for them to take on alone. HDOA has provided funds for research efforts and we respectfully urge the legislature to provide them with funding to continue supporting this effort.

We **strongly support HB1714** for funds to be appropriated to aid in research and recovery from the damage from the Two-lined Spittlebug and preventing the spread of the invasive species.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director



Bobby Farias
President
Hawaii Meats LLC
91-319 Olai Street
Kapolei, HI 96707

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Representative Mark J. Hashem, Chair
Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

RE: HB 1714

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 10:00am
Conference Room 325
Via Videoconference

Aloha e Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bobby Farias, rancher and part owner of Hawaii Meats on Oahu, and I **strongly support** HB1714. As Hawaii realizes the need for local food security, managing and monitoring agricultural threats such as the two-lined spittlebugs are crucial. The funding of this research is important in order to understand how to manage and protect the ranching community from this invasive pest. Appropriating funds to the spittlebug project is essential to increase local beef production and other grazing opportunities. Protecting our ranch lands is a must!

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bobby Farias

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

HB1714, Relating to Two-lined Spittlebug
House AGR Hearing – 10:00am
Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Testimony By: Larry Jeffs
Position: Support

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the House AGR Committee:

I am Larry Jeffs, owner and operator of Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC. We have more than 42 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. Our family farms grow about 1 million pounds weekly of import replacement produce. I am a volunteer director, serving as Chair of the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). I have been an officer of the Hawaii Farm Bureau for many years.

Livestock ranching has an estimated annual value of \$68 million, with 142,000 beef cattle on more than 1,300 ranches---80% are raised on the Big Island. It's an industry striving to bring local food to Hawaii consumers.

Two-lined spittlebug damage results in entire pastures reduced to dust and replaced with weeds that cattle cannot eat. This damage causes runoff and affects the surrounding land and water. More importantly, it directly impacts food production and the replacement of imported beef.

We understand and appreciate the 2021 Session appropriations to address this issue. We also understand that the HDOA received funds from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug.

However, your continued support is needed to help ranchers mitigate and recover pasture lands. We strongly support the Hawaii Cattlemen Council's proposed amendment to describe the appropriations to include research to inform best practices and monitor the status of the two-lined spittlebug.

Your favorable consideration of HB1714 is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



TESTIMONY OF JACOB D. TAVARES, LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS BUSINESS MANAGER,
PARKER RANCH, INC.
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
February 09, 2022 10:00 am
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEASURE: H.B. No. 1714

TITLE: RELATING TO TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

Parker Ranch, Inc. strongly supports House Bill 1714 to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for the control of the Two-lines Spittlebug (TLSB) and recovery of rangelands damaged by the invasive pest.

TLSB is one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's local beef production. The TLSB is already affecting more than 175,000 acres of land on the Big Island and is spreading rapidly. Fellow rancher's whose grazing lands have been impacted by this invasive species, are dramatically reducing their herd sizes, and thus revenue streams. The livestock business is very low margin to begin with, and in light of Covid-19, we risk losing more of our family ranchers if a solution to this pest is not discovered soon.

We at Parker Ranch are fortunate that the TLSB has not yet reached our grazing lands, however the potential impacts that it would have on our grazing operations are, quite frankly, terrifying. The University of Hawaii CTAHR, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, HISC, BIISC, affected ranchers, those of us who are at threat, and other stakeholders within the Hawaii conservation and livestock industries have been hard at work to develop a solution to this growing infestation. That being said, more resources are needed if our industry is to combat this challenge in a timely manner.

Beyond affecting the livestock industry, this pest will continue to impact other food security concerns, watershed lands, and the further spread of invasive weeds. Healthy grazing lands are integral to watershed health and function in Hawaii. The Two-lined Spittlebug severely disturbs the Hawaiian grazing land plant community by killing the grass. This loss of living ground cover leaves the land vulnerable to soil loss which contributes to sediment-laden runoff into our near shore coastal waters, affecting Hawaii's delicate ecosystems. Invasive weeds move in on these degraded lands, changing the entire character of the landscape hindering not only agriculture, but also other land management efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Jacob D. Tavares

Parker Ranch
Manager, Livestock Business Operations

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 10:06:09 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB 1714

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 5:49:45 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chuck Chimera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB1714 to procure funds for Hawaii Department of Agriculture for research on the Two-lined Spittlebug (TLSB) and for recovery of damaged rangelands affected by this invasive insect.

As a resident of Honokaa, I regularly drive past cattle pastures along the Hamakua coast and on the way to Waimea and recognize the importance of a healthy and viable ranching industry as an important component of the Big Island’s agricultural economy.

As a former Maui resident and employee of Haleakala National Park, I also recognize that well managed ranchlands (such as Haleakala Ranch and Ulupalakua Ranch) adjacent to conservation lands and reserves can provide an important buffer against the establishment of invasive, woody weeds that impact native ecosystems. In addition, these ranches serve as natural fuel breaks, slowing or preventing the spread of wildfires into endangered plant and animal habitat.

The continued impacts of the TLSB will therefore have terrible consequences to both Hawaii’s economy and natural environment if they are not addressed now, while there is still time to minimize the negative effects and find solutions to mitigate their impacts.

I therefore strongly urge you to support HB1714 and provide HDOA and the ranching industry with the much-needed resources to continue to research and find solutions to this existential invasive pest.

Mahalo,

Chuck Chimera

Honokaa, Hawaii

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 10:25:20 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 7:32:21 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Taylor Kellerman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha

The Two lined spittlebug issue is one which has an impact on the entire state, and requires appropriation for the proper management and tools to truly get in front of the issue.

Mahalo

Taylor Kellerman

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 5:58:16 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Woody Child	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1714.

Personal Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1714
RELATING to TWO-LINED SPITTLEBUGS

by
Jenee S. Odani, DVM, DACVP

House Committee on Agriculture
February 9, 2022
10:00 am; via Video Conference

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the committee:

My name is Jenee Odani, and I am the Extension Veterinarian with the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. I am grateful for the opportunity to provide personal testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 1714**. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii nor CTAHR.

I know that this year brings with it many challenges for the State, including fiscal restrictions. However, I believe that the ongoing and growing threat posed by the Two-lined Spittlebug to Hawaii's lands and the ranchers that steward these lands warrants special consideration. Please appropriate funds to the Dept. of Agriculture for the control of the Two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest. **Research activities to inform best practices and monitor the two-lined spittle bug are critically needed** and should be added to the current bill language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 8:50:38 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kristin Mack Almasin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1714.

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:28:10 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keith Unger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

McCandless Ranch strongly supports funding to continue to fight the TLSB.

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 9:40:51 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support.

We could lose all of our pasture lands.

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 9:47:29 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This measure is of critical importance to farming and ranching. Please pass the bill to help find a way to control this enormously destructive invasive species. Thank you.

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 11:40:50 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jimmy Gomes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support per Hawaii Cattlemen's Council testimony

HB-1714

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 6:27:01 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/9/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Theresa M Thompson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of the senate bill, SB2988, which would appropriate funds to DOA for the mitigation and control of the two-lined spittlebug and recovery of the rangelands damaged by the invasive pest.

Mahalo,

Theresa Thompson