

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 10, 2022  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**H.B. 2200**  
**RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.**

House Committee(s) on Water and Land

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill which recognizes invasive species threatens Hawaii's environment, agriculture, people, and our visitors by appropriating general fund revenues for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program for fiscal year 2022-2023.

The DOT is cognizant its airports and harbors are ports of entry for invasive species and that strengthening biosecurity efforts ensures the public's safety and the economic prosperity of our entire State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

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

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 WATER & LAND  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2200

**February 10, 2022**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Rom 430 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

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

House Bill No. 2200 appropriates \$525,000 in general funds in FY 23 for the Department of Agriculture's ports-of-entry biosecurity program.

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.

**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 WATER AND LAND**

**VIDEOCONFERENCE  
FEBRUARY 10, 2022, 8:30AM**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2200  
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

Chairperson Tarnas and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2200. The bill affirms that proactive investment in strengthening a port-of-entry biosecurity program is more economic in protecting Hawaii from invasive species than reactionary actions. The Department supports the bill and offers the following comments.

The bill appropriates funds to continue the ports-of-entry biosecurity program, which the Department has initiated and been a part of since the implementation of the Biosecurity Program. The Department is well suited to continue the ports-of-entry biosecurity program due to its statutory authority to inspect cargo at airports and marine ports of the State. The Department's experienced Plant Quarantine inspectors have the authority and accreditation to inspect arriving cargo for the presence of hitchhiking invasive pests that would not be found using just traps and lures, such as the brown marmorated stink bug and egg masses of the spotted lantern fly. The Department has in place a well-defined plan to expend the appropriated funds as allocated in the bill to mitigate the risk of invasive species arriving through high-risks sites, such as our airports and marine ports as intended in this measure.



Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**HB-2200**

Submitted on: 2/9/2022 12:38:00 AM

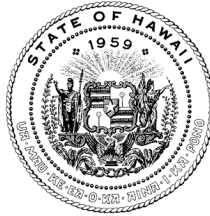
Testimony for WAL on 2/10/2022 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Morris Atta	Hawaii Department of Agriculture	Comments	Yes

Comments:

I am available to answer questions.

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 House Committee on  
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022  
8:30 AM**

**State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 430**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2200  
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

House Bill 2200 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The State Legislature declared invasive species to be the single greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people and visitors in a 2015 report (Legislative Reference Bureau 2015). Hawaii's role as a hub for travel, commerce, and military transport is a major contributor to the economy but also increases its vulnerability to new pest incursions. Small investments in early detection and rapid response programs are the most cost-effective way to deal with invasive species and can save the state billions of dollars in economic losses and damages.

The Ports-of-Entry Biosecurity Program (formerly known as Māmalu Poepoe) has acted as the shield to prevent the introduction and spread of high-risk pests to Hawaii by implementing a multi-agency pest monitoring system at Hawaii's airports. The program has successfully operated at Hawaii's six main airports with funding from the Hawaii Department of Transportation's Airport Revenue Fees for the past five years, implementing monitoring efforts for four target pests; Africanized bees, invasive ants, mosquitoes, and coconut rhinoceros beetle. Each of these targets could easily hitchhike on planes, slip through inspections, and impact multiple sectors of the local economy, as well as human health and our way of life in the islands. The monitoring efforts complement those of the federal and state agency commodity inspections rather than duplicating them.

**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

Some program highlights include:

- Coordination of the development of a response plan for Africanized bees.
- Intercepted *Aedes aegypti*, a mosquito species currently restricted to Hawaii Island and an effective vector of Dengue, Chikungunya, Zika and other arboviruses (viruses spread to people by the bite of infected insects such as mosquitoes and ticks), at Kahului airport in 2017.
- Coordinated efforts for mosquito response at Honolulu Harbor in 2021.
- Developed Best Management Practices for airport contractors and workers for all target species under the program.
- Coordinated the development of Standard Operating Procedures for detecting *Aedes* mosquitoes.

The program fills a critical gap in Hawaii's biosecurity and provides critical human health and economic protection. The Ports-of-Entry Biosecurity Program is administered under the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), and that is probably the most effective place for it to remain. The Hawaii Invasive Species Council is an inter-departmental collaboration comprised of the Departments of Land and Natural Resources, Agriculture, Health, Transportation, Business, Economic Development & Tourism, and the University of Hawaii. The HISC was established in 2003 for the special purpose of providing policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
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AQUATIC RESOURCES  
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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 430

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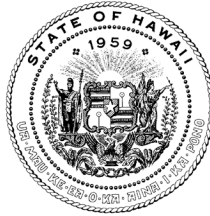
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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 House Committee on  
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022  
8:30 AM**

**State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 430**

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RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

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**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

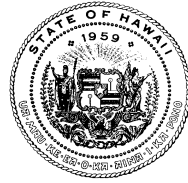
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2200**  
**Relating to Biosecurity**

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID TARNAS, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Hearing Date: 2/10/2022

Room Number: Videoconference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Provides appropriations to Department of Agriculture
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports HB2200 which appropriates funds
- 3 for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program.
- 4 In 2017, Mamalu PoePoe (MMPP) was established as a 5-year collaborative program in
- 5 DLNR/HISC to bring together resources from Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Land and Natural
- 6 Resources, Dept. of Health, the University of Hawaii and along with federal partners to facilitate
- 7 a cooperative partnership in the detection and prevention of invasive species from entering
- 8 Hawaii through the ports of entry. The Department of Health, Vector Control Branch has greatly
- 9 benefitted from the knowledge, expertise and funding provided by MMPP to help expand our
- 10 surveillance program at airports and harbors. In 2017 at Kahului Airport, with assistance from
- 11 MMPP, Vector Control staff intercepted larvae and prevented the breeding of *Aedes aegypti*
- 12 mosquito; the mosquito known to transmit vector borne diseases such as Dengue Fever,
- 13 Chikungunya, Yellow Fever, and Zika. Most recently in August of 2021, the Oahu Vector
- 14 Control staff identified an adult *Aedes aegypti* mosquito at one of its routine monitoring stations at
- 15 Honolulu Harbor. MMPP assisted in Department of Health's response by providing technical
- 16 assistance, securing additional sampling equipment and facilitating and coordinating access to
- 17 secure locations at the harbor.

1 The infrastructure established under MMPP has been invaluable in the development of an  
2 interagency Standard Operating Procedures Manual for invasive species, and bringing together  
3 agency experts to strengthen and protect Hawaii's biosecurity.

4

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



23 E. Kawili St, Hilo, HI 96720 • Phone: (808) 933-3340

**Support for HB2200 relating to Biosecurity at Ports of Entry**

House Committee on Water and Land

February 10, 2022 8:30 AM

Aloha Chair:

The Big Island Invasive Species Committee supports this bill to fund ongoing, proactive surveys of Hawaii's ports of entry as a critical, cost-effective means to protect Hawaii from new, high-risk invasive species. Targets of current surveys and inspections include directly harmful pests such as disease-carrying mosquitoes, stinging ants not yet in the state, coconut rhinoceros beetles that have not yet reached the neighbor islands, and swarms of aggressive hybridized honeybees.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Springer Kaye, Manager  
Big Island Invasive Species Committee



COORDINATING GROUP ON  
ALIEN PEST SPECIES

The House of Representatives  
Committee on Water and Land  
Thursday, February 10, 2022  
8:30 a.m., via Videoconference

### **Testimony in Support of HB 2200**

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and Members of the Committee,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **is in support of HB 2200, *Relating to Biosecurity***. The aim of this measure is to provide funding for the continuation and expansion of a port-of-entry invasive pest monitoring program.

Hawai‘i air and sea ports receive and move an incredible amount of conveyances—planes, ships, cargo, and even the shipping pallets and containers themselves—and each provides an opportunity for a new pest to arrive. While federal and state agencies focus on inspecting items that are considered high-risk for carrying pests, certain pests can be particularly elusive during inspection processes, or they may enter in or on items that are not under close scrutiny, for example:

- Africanized honeybees (a particularly aggressive hybrid between European and African bee subspecies) can arrive unnoticed on cargo containers, and may not be seen by port workers until too late.
- New species of mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases can also arrive in aircraft holds or cabins. The arrival of malaria, zika, and many others would change our lives forever.

For these reasons the Hawai‘i Invasive Species Council agencies and partners worked together to set up and operate a 5-year pilot program that monitored for these and other pests at key airports in Hawai‘i. A review of the airport monitoring program, Mamalu Poepoe, was conducted in 2021 and found that key partners thought that the program was important, helpful, and effective. Further, agency partners thought that the program should expand to include some key locations around Honolulu Harbor, such as the Foreign Trade Zone and major cargo operations.

It may also be helpful to know that the Mamalu Poepoe program tapped into and expanded existing capacities statewide, including Hawai‘i Department of Health, Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture, the Hawai‘i Ant Lab, the Invasive Species Committees, honeybee and other research work at the University of Hawai‘i. Dr. Leyla Kaufman, the Mamalu Poepoe program coordinator has done a tremendous job of putting the program together, working with multiple agencies and instituting a variety of monitoring and rapid response protocols for the different pests. The initial investment has been more than worth the outcome, and we think that investing in the expansion of the program will also be well worth the cost. Thank you for your consideration of HB 2200.

Aloha,  
Christy Martin  
CGAPS





COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Patrick Pihana Branco, Vice Chair

**HB2200**  
Relating to Biosecurity

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 8:30 AM  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of over 750 thousand acres of land in Hawaii, or 20% of the State's total land mass. We represent the interests of Hawaii's cattle producers.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB2200** to appropriate funds for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program. As a vulnerable island state, we must take measures to secure ports-of-entry and prevent the negative effects of invasive species on the environment. We support the investment in invasive species preventative measures, and appreciate the foresight of stopping the spread at ports-of-entry. This effort will help the economy and the health of the land in the long run, and curb added expenses for agricultural entities to address invasive species after they arrive and spread.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Nicole Galase  
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council  
Managing Director





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

February 10, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2200**  
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Conference Room 430 & Videoconference  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Branco, 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 2200**, which appropriates funds for a port-of-entry biosecurity program.

Invasive species have become one of the most challenging problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and the state's economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture is one of the major casualties when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, coffee berry borer, coffee leaf rust, macadamia felted coccid, brown tree snake, little fire ant, two-lined spittlebug, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle, and varroa mite, to name a few. Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk.

Funding the HDOA's ports-of-entry biosecurity program is essential to fully execute a comprehensive strategy to address the increasing amount of invasive species entering the state. This measure will provide necessary resources to HDOA to help prevent new invasive species from entering Hawaii and to control and hopefully eradicate invasive species that are already established in Hawaii.

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

**HB-2200**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 7:32:50 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/10/2022 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Protecting our native environment from destructive invasive species is part of our kuleana as residents and caretakers of the aina of Hawaii. I strongly support passage of HB2200.

**HB-2200**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 1:07:25 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/10/2022 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Nathan Dube	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara Jr., and Esteemed Committee Members-

I strongly support designating ‘Ōhi‘a as the state endemic tree. As Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death continues to ravage ‘Ōhi‘a forests across the state, recognition of this foundational species is a wonderful symbolic measure to ensure the importance of this tree in the Hawaiian landscape and its history to the people of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration!

**HB-2200**

Submitted on: 2/9/2022 12:13:19 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/10/2022 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha,

Please help to protect the critical environments we have left by passing this bill and putting funding into the spaces needed to manage invasive species. Stopping these invasive species at the source is critical, as we know and see time and time again, that if it gets into the natural environment, the likeliness of eradicating them are slim to none, which in turn threatens the remaining species. Biosecurity has truly been under resourced and if we want to see our Hawai'i thrive again, we must support these projects fully.

Mahalo,

Kimeona Kane

**HB-2200**

Submitted on: 2/9/2022 8:00:34 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/10/2022 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill. Thank you.