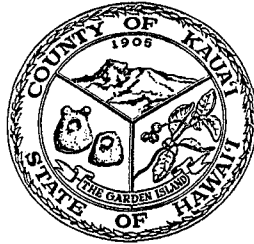


COUNTY COUNCIL
JAY FURFARO, CHAIR
MEL RAPOZO, VICE CHAIR
TIM BYNUM
SHAYLENE ISERI-CARVALHO
DARYL W. KANESHIRO
RONALD D. KOUCHI
JOANN A. YUKIMURA



4396 RICE STREET, ROOM 206
LĪHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAI'I 96766-1371
E-mail: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

DEPT. COMM. NO. 46

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
Council Services Division
Elections Division

PETER A. NAKAMURA, County Clerk
ERNESTO G. PASION, Deputy County Clerk
Telephone: (808) 241-6371
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349

October 23, 2008

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
Senate President
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senate President Hanabusa:

Enclosed is Resolution No. 2008-43, Draft 1 which was adopted at the October 22, 2008 Council Meeting.

**"RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO PROTECT KAUA'I FROM
ANY POTENTIAL INFESTATION OF THE VARROA MITE"**

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the Council Services Office at (808) 241-6371.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PETER A. NAKAMURA
County Clerk

Attachment

8 001 31 63 03

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF KAUAI

ResolutionNo. 2008-43,
Draft 1**RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE TO PROTECT KAUAI FROM ANY POTENTIAL
INFESTATION OF THE VARROA MITE**

WHEREAS, the varroa mite is a tiny external parasite that feeds off the blood of adult honey bees, larvae, and pupae and is one of the most destructive pests of honey bees; and

WHEREAS, infestation of the varroa mite has led to a decline of bee colonies worldwide causing a reduction in pollination necessary for the production of tropical fruits and vegetables, including coffee, macadamia nuts, citrus, avocado, mango, and guava; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i was one of the last places on Earth without the varroa mite until 2007; and

WHEREAS, Micheal Kliks, owner of Mānoa Honey Co. and president of the Hawai'i Beekeepers Association, discovered the first known infestation of the varroa mite in Hawai'i at an abandoned bee colony in Makiki Valley on O'ahu in April 2007; and

WHEREAS, Klik's discovery prompted the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture to survey wild and managed beehives in all of Hawai'i and found that the Neighbor Islands remained mite free, while O'ahu has been infested islandwide; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture developed a draft plan in 2007 to contain the varroa mite on O'ahu by preventing its spread to the neighbor islands and the State Legislature appropriated \$650,000 to support this plan; and

WHEREAS, in August 2008, the varroa mite was again discovered in three incidents in Hilo on the island of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, infestation of the varroa mite would have a devastating effect on Kauai's honey industry, which comprises eight (8) percent of the State's total honey production; and

WHEREAS, commercial beekeeping in Hawai'i, which includes queen bee and honey production, has been estimated at over \$4 million; and

WHEREAS, preliminary estimates by the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture foresee the varroa mite costing the agriculture industry an estimated \$42 million to \$62 million a year if it wipes out the State's bee population; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF KAUAI, STATE OF HAWAII, that the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture is urged to pursue all available resources and technology to prevent and protect Kaua'i from varroa mite infestation.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka, U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie, U.S. Representative Mazie Hirono, Senate President Colleen Hanabusa, Speaker of the House Calvin K.Y. Say, Mayor Bill "Kaipo" Asing, Governor Linda Lingle, Senator Gary Hooser, Representative Hermina M. Morita, Representative Roland D. Sagum, III, Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Sandra Lee Kunimoto, Chairperson, State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Laura H. Thielen, Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Brennon Morioka, Acting Director, State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation.

INTRODUCED BY:

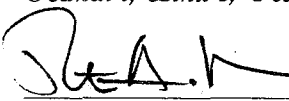
/s/MEL RAPOZO

D:RESOLUTION:2008-43D1/YS:lki

	Ag	May	Exc	Recused
Bynum	X			
Furfaro	X			
Iseri-Carvalho	X			
Kaneshiro	X			
Kouchi	X			
Rapoza	X			
Yukimura	X			
Total	7	0	0	0

Certificate Of Adoption

We hereby certify that Resolution No. 2008-43, Draft 1, was adopted by the Council of the County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i, Lihue, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, on October 22, 2008.


County Clerk
Dated: October 22, 2008


Chairman or Presiding Officer