
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE KAUAI BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WITH EDUCATION AND PREVENTION OF THE VARROA MITE AND OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES.

1 WHEREAS, the varroa mite is a tiny external parasite that
2 feeds off the blood of adult honey bees, larvae, and pupae and
3 is one of the most destructive pests of honey bees; and
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5 WHEREAS, infestation of the varroa mite has led to a
6 decline in the numbers of bee colonies around the world, causing
7 reductions in the pollination necessary for the production of
8 tropical fruits and vegetables, including coffee, macadamia
9 nuts, citrus, avocado, mango, and guava; and
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11 WHEREAS, until 2007, with the exception of Hawaii, the
12 varroa mite infestation was worldwide; and
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14 WHEREAS, in 2009, the State suffered a major revenue
15 shortfall, causing state departments to cut staff and services;
16 and
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18 WHEREAS, as a result of staff and service cuts, the
19 Department of Agriculture does not have the resources to provide
20 education and prevention services; and
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22 WHEREAS, in January of 2009, Kauai's beekeepers united to
23 form the Kauai Beekeepers Association to address the spread of
24 the varroa mite; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Kauai Bee Keepers Association is made up of
27 professional beekeepers, volunteers, and beekeeping hobbyists,
28 with many members receiving little or no compensation for their
29 beekeeping activities; and
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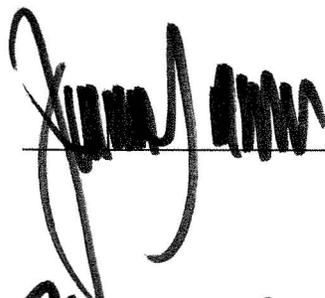
1 WHEREAS, the Kauai Bee Keepers Association and the
2 Department of Agriculture have collaborated to address the
3 spread of the varroa mite in the State by meeting with
4 researchers with the University of Hawaii; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Kauai Bee Keepers Association and its members
7 are an example of the business sector and the community
8 partnering in the State to address the largest threat to the
9 beekeeping and honey industry; now, therefore,

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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
13 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature recognizes
14 and appreciates the efforts of the Kauai Beekeepers Association
15 and other key stakeholders to assist the Department of
16 Agriculture with education and prevention of the varroa mite and
17 other invasive species; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board
21 of Agriculture, the Mayor and Chairperson of the Council of the
22 County of Kauai, and the President of the Kauai Bee Keepers
23 Association.

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OFFERED BY: 





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