H.C.R. NO. 307

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NOT TO INSPECT OR RELEASE ANY AIRLINE CARGO OF AN AIRLINE THAT DOES NOT REGULARLY PAY THE INSPECTION, QUARANTINE, AND ERADICATION SERVICE FEE AND CHARGE FOR THAT CARGO.

WHEREAS, an invasive species is a harmful non-indigenous 1 plant, animal, insect, or disease agent that enters the State's 2 borders; and 3 4 WHEREAS, if left uncontrolled, invasive species can 5 devastate Hawaii's agricultural industry, natural environment, 6 economy, public health, and threaten the dwindling number of 7 8 endangered species in Hawaii; and 9 WHEREAS, the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, 10 and the United States Department of Interior, recognize the 11 devastation that invasive species can inflict on the 12 13 environment, Hawaii's national parks, and the State's endangered 14 species; and 15 WHEREAS, once established invasive species may hopefully be 16 controlled but often times cannot be eradicated; and 17 18 WHEREAS, without vigilant inspection of incoming cargo, the 19 public's health, safety, and welfare are at risk from the 20 introduction and establishment of invasive species; and 21 22 WHEREAS, the only two pathways for invasive species to 23 enter the State is by air or maritime transportation; and 24 25 26 WHEREAS, an invasive species inspection at a port-of-entry is considered the best quarantine measure to reduce entry of 27 28 unwanted animals and plants into the State; and 29



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WHEREAS, there is evidence that suggests that invasive 1 species introduced in the State by air transportation have a 2 stronger likelihood of survival than by any other means; and 3 4 5 WHEREAS, past and current air transport inspections have found prohibited plants and animals, including snakes, piranha, 6 and rare and endangered orchids, fish, and coral; and 7 8 WHEREAS, some airlines are releasing imported cargo without 9 10 inspection; and 11 12 WHEREAS, dogs have been released by transportation companies without inspection for public health issues such as 13 rabies; and 14 15 WHEREAS, section 150A-5.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, 16 provides that a person responsible for paying freight charges to 17 18 the transportation company must pay an inspection fee of fifty 19 cents per one thousand pounds of freight to the transportation 20 company; and 21 WHEREAS, maritime transportation companies have been 22 23 attempting to collect the inspection fee and have forwarded the payment to the State Department of Agriculture, but many 24 airlines transportation companies have not; and 25 26 WHEREAS, the community and state government feel that 27 interdicting non-native species is a priority and should be 28 required at all ports-of-entry; now, therefore, 29 30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 31 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 32 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Department of 33 Agriculture is urged not to inspect or release any airline cargo 34 of an airline that does not regularly pay the inspection, 35 36 quarantine, and eradication service fee and charge for that 37 cargo; and 38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Department of 39 Agriculture is urged to cite and fine all airlines releasing 40 cargo that has not been inspected to the extent permitted by 41 section 150A-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and 42 43

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Transportation, the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, the Airline Committee of Hawaii, and the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Honolulu District Office.

OFFERED BY:



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