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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT FEDERAL POLICY TO PROHIBIT THE INTRODUCTION OF NON-NATIVE SPECIES, AND TO MANAGE AND PREVENT THE UNCONTROLLED PROLIFERATION OF INVASIVE SPECIES.

WHEREAS, the federal government has no single policy prohibiting or limiting the import and keeping of non-native species into the United States; and

WHEREAS, federal regulations on invasive species are found in public laws and acts that place responsibility for administration and enforcement under different agencies and departments, such as the United States Department of the Interior, United States Environmental Protection Agency, United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Service, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of non-native species like feral pigs, goats, deer and wild cattle; Asian carp; coqui frogs; snails; exotic plants; invasive aquatic and marine species; and other noxious pests extends beyond the jurisdiction of individual states; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of these invasive species inflict irreparable damage to native habitats, native ecosystems, and native species; and

WHEREAS, states, organizations, agencies, and individuals are allowed to import non-native species under state laws that are different from state to state, with differing levels of permitting, monitoring, protection, management, and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the management and control of import and proliferation of non-native species would benefit from application of federal guidelines, standards, regulations, and oversight; and

WHEREAS, invasive species damage native ecosystems, threaten habitats, cause damage to crops, disrupt farming and other agricultural activities that contribute to the country's security and economy and result in serious threats to endemic species important for ecological and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, healthy native, natural environments extend beyond states' jurisdictions and benefit the entire country; and

WHEREAS, there is no federal clearinghouse or agency solely responsible for the collection of information, enforcement, and planning for the reduction and management of invasive species; and

WHEREAS, the control and management of the proliferation of non-native species becoming invasive species would benefit from national standards for non-native species, to include introduction criteria, non-native species management and monitoring standards, limitations on introductions and imports, and licensing and permitting of non-native species introductions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the House of Representatives concurring, that the federal government is urged to adopt federal policy to prohibit the introduction of non-native species, and to manage and prevent the uncontrolled proliferation of invasive species; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Chairperson of the United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, Chairperson of the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans And Insular Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service Pacific Islands Regional Administrator, Hawaii's

2 3 4 congressional delegation, Governor, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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