A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOLUCCA ALBIZIA TREES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that molucca albizia
- 2 trees are an invasive species that present a threat to life and
- 3 property in Hawaii. The molucca albizia was first introduced to
- 4 Hawaii in 1917 as an ornamental tree and for the purposes of
- 5 reforestation. At one time, the United States Forest Service
- 6 planted 135,000 molucca albizia seeds on Kauai, Oahu, Molokai,
- 7 Lanai, and Hawaii for the production of lumber.
- 8 Molucca albizia is one of the fastest growing species among
- 9 the broad-leaf tree species and has a life span of twenty-five
- 10 to thirty years. It has a large crown and can reach more than
- 11 one hundred feet in height. The molucca albizia has a soft and
- 12 brittle wood, has a shallow root system in poor soil, and its
- 13 large branches are often susceptible to breaking in high wind.
- 14 These factors pose a significant hazard to people and
- 15 property in various residential and recreational areas,
- 16 including the Manoa Falls trail. The invasive species council
- 17 has identified molucca albizia trees as a priority concern for

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- 1 their potential threat to human safety and the environment.
- 2 There is increasing public concern about the risk to people and
- 3 property presented by the spread of the molucca albizia tree in
- 4 the State. For example, molucca albizia trees downed by
- 5 Tropical Storm Iselle impeded highways, damaged power lines, and
- 6 caused severe home damage.
- 7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to the
- 8 department of land and natural resources to eradicate molucca
- 9 albizia trees in the State.
- 10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
- 13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
- 14 year 2016-2017 for the eradication of molucca albizia trees.
- 15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 16 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.
- 17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 23 2015

H.B. NO. 551

Report Title:

Molucca Albizia Trees; DLNR; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to DLNR to eradicate molucca albizia trees.

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