

---

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

---

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE  
TO DOCUMENT AND COLLECT DATA IDENTIFYING ECONOMIC,  
ENVIRONMENTAL, AND REGULATORY CONSEQUENCES OF CROP  
DEGRADATION CAUSED BY INVASIVE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN  
HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, invasive and endangered species have negative  
2 impacts on Hawaii crop and animal production, including  
3 declining yields and depressed returns from the cultivation of  
4 agricultural products; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, invasive and endangered species are affecting  
7 farmers statewide, and negative impacts are particularly acute  
8 where the invasive and endangered species are relatively  
9 recently introduced and traditional methods for control have not  
10 been established; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, invasive and endangered species directly affect  
13 the growing of crops for local consumption and directly impact  
14 Hawaii farmers' ability to supply fresh local crops to people in  
15 the State; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, while farmers and ranchers have experienced the  
18 negative impacts of invasive and endangered species, they don't  
19 necessarily have the training to document the economic and  
20 agricultural harm being caused by these damaging pests; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, documenting the impacts of invasive and endangered  
23 species on Hawaii agriculture is necessary to facilitate a  
24 unified federal, state, and county effort to address this  
25 agricultural threat; now, therefore,

26  
27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular



1 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
2 Agriculture is requested to convene a task force to document and  
3 collect data identifying economic, environmental, and regulatory  
4 consequences of crop degradation caused by invasive and  
5 endangered species in Hawaii; and

6  
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests the  
8 following persons or their designated representatives to serve  
9 as members of the task force:

- 10  
11 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, who is  
12 requested to serve as Chairperson of the task force;  
13  
14 (2) One representative each from the Natural Resources  
15 Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, and Rural  
16 Development Agency of the United States Department of  
17 Agriculture;  
18  
19 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
20 Resources;  
21  
22 (4) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the  
23 Agribusiness Development Corporation;  
24  
25 (5) The Director of Health;  
26  
27 (6) One representative each from the College of Tropical  
28 Agriculture and Human Resources and the Economic  
29 Research Organization of the University of Hawaii;  
30  
31 (7) One representative each from the Planning Departments  
32 of the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai and the  
33 Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and  
34 County of Honolulu;  
35  
36 (8) One representative each from the Offices of Economic  
37 Development of the City and County of Honolulu, County  
38 of Maui, and County of Kauai, and the Department of  
39 Research and Development of the County of Hawaii;  
40  
41 (9) One representative from the Hawaii Invasive Species  
42 Council; and



- 1  
2 (10) One representative from the Hawaii Farm Bureau  
3 Federation; and  
4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, in coordination  
6 with the United States Department of Agriculture, the Hawaii  
7 Department of Agriculture, the Division of Forestry and Wildlife  
8 of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the College of  
9 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension  
10 Service and other scientific researchers at the University of  
11 Hawaii, and the Invasive Species Committees on each respective  
12 island, is requested to conduct population assessments of  
13 invasive and endangered species affecting Hawaii's agricultural  
14 industry; and  
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, in conducting  
17 population assessments, is requested to examine the following:  
18

- 19 (1) Population sizes, geographical ranges, and  
20 distributions of invasive and endangered species;  
21  
22 (2) Impacts of invasive and endangered species on  
23 agricultural crops and on nonagricultural land uses,  
24 including botanical gardens, golf courses, and  
25 watershed areas;  
26  
27 (3) Whether populations of invasive and endangered species  
28 travel from watershed and wildlife habitats to areas  
29 populated and cultivated by people in order to feed;  
30  
31 (4) The roosting and shelter areas of invasive and  
32 endangered species, in relation to their feeding  
33 areas; and  
34  
35 (5) The rates at which populations of invasive and  
36 endangered species are increasing or decreasing; and  
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
39 develop best management practices to control, eradicate, or  
40 relocate invasive and endangered species from Hawaii's  
41 agricultural areas, including:  
42



(1) Protocols to protect farms and ranches from the negative impacts of invasive and endangered species, control invasive species in a humane manner, and assist appropriate wildlife agencies in developing habitats for Hawaii's endangered species; and

(2) Public education protocols for explaining the negative impacts of invasive and endangered species on agriculture and the steps taken by the task force to address those negative impacts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, and the Under Secretary of the Rural Development Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture; the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation; the Director of Health; the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the Project Manager of the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii; the Directors of Planning of the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai; the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; the Executive Director of Economic Development of the City and County of Honolulu; the Director of Economic Development of the County of Kauai; the Coordinator of Economic Development of the County of Maui; the Director of Research and Development of the County of Hawaii; the Co-Chairpersons of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council; and the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.

OFFERED BY: 



H.C.R. NO. 42

Glynis DeCorte  
Re: [Signature]

[Signature]

James B. King

L. G.

Tom Brown

[Signature]

Henry M. Lubben

[Signature]

James M. [Signature]

[Signature]

FEB 19 2016

