
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of
2 health has reported over seventy cases of rat lungworm disease
3 caused by *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* from 2001 to 2014. There
4 were many more cases in 2017, including at least eleven on
5 Hawaii island, six on Maui, and one on Oahu. The disease has
6 claimed lives and caused crippling chronic disability. The cost
7 of treatment for one severe case can exceed \$1,000,000. The
8 Hawaii island rat lungworm disease working group has been formed
9 at the Daniel K. Inouye college of pharmacy at the University of
10 Hawaii at Hilo and has been conducting research and educational
11 outreach on the disease for the past four years.

12 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
13 University of Hawaii at Hilo for research and other activities
14 related to the eradication and prevention of rat lungworm
15 disease.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for
2 research and other activities related to the eradication and
3 prevention of rat lungworm disease, including:

4 (1) Conducting laboratory testing to determine the
5 effectiveness of deworming rats to reduce rat lungworm
6 transmission;

7 (2) Conducting laboratory testing of a wide range of
8 commercially available produce washes as well as other
9 potential solutions;

10 (3) Conducting laboratory testing of commercially
11 available filters and ultraviolet systems to determine
12 effectiveness in catchment; and

13 (4) Optimizing existing tests or developing new blood-
14 based tests for rat lungworm diagnostics;

15 provided that the University of Hawaii at Hilo shall collaborate
16 with the department of health, department of land and natural
17 resources, department of agriculture, and the governor's joint
18 rat lungworm task force, to create a statewide plan for the
19 eradication and prevention of rat lungworm disease.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
21 Hawaii at Hilo for the purposes of this Act; provided that the



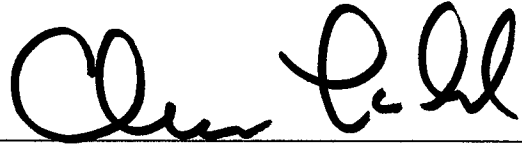
H.B. NO. 2506

1 appropriated funds shall not be released until the University of
2 Hawaii at Hilo submits to the legislature a comprehensive plan
3 describing specific research and other activities it plans to
4 undertake to eradicate and prevent rat lungworm disease in the
5 State.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

7

INTRODUCED BY:



Nadine K. Pukuan

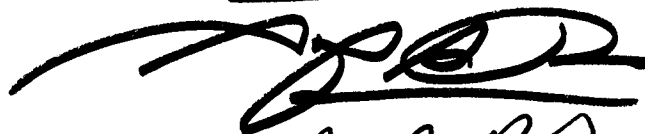


D. L. Ht

L. N. 2

Sam Oail

al art



John M. N. Lopez

JAN 23 2018



H.B. NO. 2506

Report Title:

Rat Lungworm Disease; University of Hawaii at Hilo;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii at Hilo for research and other activities related to rat lungworm disease. Conditions release of the funds on the University submitting a report to the legislature listing the specific research and activities it plans to undertake. Requires the University, along with the Department of Health, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and Joint Rat Lungworm Task Force, to create a statewide plan for the eradication and prevention of rat lungworm disease.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

