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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING STATE AGENCIES TO COLLABORATE WITH FARMERS, OTHER
LANDOWNERS, AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO MITIGATE THE
IMPACTS OF INVASIVE ANIMALS ON KAUAI.

WHEREAS, invasive animals, such as pigs, goats, and deer, can have detrimental impacts on people, native species and habitats, and the environment and have been the subject of significant community concerns, including concerns about damage to personal property and effects on public resources; and

WHEREAS, species native to the State evolved on the islands in the absence of some of the world's more competitive species, such as sharp-hooved ungulates and carnivorous predators, and because island species do not have to defend themselves against such threats, they lose, or fail to evolve, the defensive mechanisms often found in their distant mainland relatives; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of non-native animals that may not be able to coexist with native species can bring competition in Hawaii's ecosystems and reduce the native species population; and

WHEREAS, invasive animals can also have an effect on resources, such as the axis deer, which eat a variety of native plants and agricultural goods of the State, and whose hooves break up soil and increase erosion; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has a permit process in place for the control of nuisance animals, including those that contribute to the destruction of crops; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between impacted landowners, permitting agencies, and experienced hunters is critically needed to make recommendations for invasive animals; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the Senate concurring, that state agencies are urged to collaborate with farmers and other landowners to mitigate the impacts of invasive animals on Kauai and recommend solutions to address those issues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests the following entities to collaborate on this issue:

(1)The Department of Agriculture;

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(2) The Department of Land and Natural Resources;

(3) The Kauai Hunting Association;

(4)The Kauai County Farm Bureau; and

Other persons or entities, as deemed appropriate by (5) the above entities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the entities are requested to:

(1) Respond to requests from anyone on Kauai who is impacted by invasive animals;

(2) Develop strategies to issue appropriate wildlife control permits or conduct other strategic population management utilizing expertise of local hunters; and

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(3) Pursue any options to create a value-added opportunity in addressing invasive animals, such as using meat from those invasive animals as a commodity; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Chairperson of the Kauai Hunting Association; and the President of the Kauai County Farm Bureau.