

JAN 19 2018

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the invasion of  
2   Hawai'i by insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and  
3   other pests is the single greatest threat to the State's economy  
4   and natural environment and to the health and lifestyle of the  
5   people of Hawai'i. Pests already cause millions of dollars in  
6   crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction  
7   of native forests, and the spread of disease, but many more  
8   harmful pests now threaten to invade Hawai'i and cause more  
9   damage. Stopping the influx of new pests and containing their  
10  spread are essential to the State's current and future well-  
11  being.

12           The legislature further recognizes the efforts made by the  
13  department of land and natural resources' division of forestry  
14  and wildlife, Maui branch, and the Maui invasive species  
15  committee to control high-threat invasive species throughout  
16  Maui county, especially efforts in east Maui to control miconia,  
17  a fast-growing weedy tree that can increase erosion and



1 landslides due to its shallow root system. It is estimated that  
2 approximately 37,000 acres throughout east Maui could contain  
3 miconia, which poses a threat to the local environment, cultural  
4 practices, and economy.

5 The purpose of this Act is to provide funds to establish  
6 invasive species technician positions for the department of land  
7 and natural resources' division of forestry and wildlife in east  
8 Maui to control invasive species, like miconia, from negatively  
9 impacting the environment and economy.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to  
13 establish five permanent full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) invasive  
14 species technician positions at the department of land and  
15 natural resources' division of forestry and wildlife, Maui  
16 branch, to address invasive plants and animals in east Maui.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
18 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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# S.B. NO. 2682

~~SEN. C. ANTHONY~~  
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# S.B. NO. 2682

**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; East Maui; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources' division of forestry and wildlife, Maui branch, for invasive species technician positions in east Maui to address invasive plants and animals.

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

