DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the House Committee on ENERGY 7 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 2301, HOUSE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

House Bill 230, House Draft 1, proposes to restructure the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (HISA), an agency attached administratively to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) with expanded board membership that would allow for participation from non-governmental stakeholders. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.

The Department notes that establishing and funding the HISA is one of the key goals of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, described in postborder policy action item PosPol2.1 and postborder funding action item PosTifs1.1. Passing this measure would directly support implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. The full Biosecurity Plan is available for review at http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/.

The Department has acted as the administrative host of the interagency HISC since its creation in 2003 and serves as co-chair along with the HDOA. Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires the HISC to perform a broad spectrum of policy and coordination duties associated with invasive species. The HISC also manages an annual interagency budget to support innovative interagency projects that fill gaps between agency mandates. Chapter 194, HRS, establishes the HISC as a board only, comprised of chairs or directors of state departments, and does not provide staff or funding for the operation of the HISC. As such, the Department has provided existing staff resources to effectuate the direction of the HISC.

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E. DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

This measure would add three non-ex-officio seats to the voting board, to be appointed by the Governor, to represent the interests of stakeholders outside of state government including agricultural and horticultural stakeholders, conservation stakeholders, and an individual with expertise in Native Hawaiian cultural practices. This measure would also authorize the HISA to hire staff necessary to effectuate the direction of the board, and provides an appropriation for this purpose. Rather than being administratively hosted within an existing agency, the HISA would function as a semi-autonomous entity administratively attached to an existing agency.

With regard to attachment to HDOA, the Department notes that HDOA has broad mandates regarding invasive species and biosecurity and would be an appropriate agency to which the HISA could be attached. As proposed, both the Department and HDOA would continue to act as co-chairs on the board of directors.

In preparation of an attached agency concept for invasive species coordination, HISC staff conducted a stakeholder survey to gather input on desired components of an enhanced coordinating entity. Stakeholder input was broadly supportive of the HISA concept.

This measure also appropriates funds for an interagency budget to support gap-filling projects, similar to that currently operated by the HISC. These funds support the island-based Invasive Species Committees, Hawaii Ant Lab, and other projects, as well as research on new detection and control technologies designed to increase efficiency and reduce control costs. With regard to the appropriation amount in this measure for interagency invasive species project needs, the Department notes that the HISC received over \$12,000,000 in project funding requests in Fiscal Year 2018. Descriptions of the funded and unfunded projects are online at http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/projects/fy18.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson



TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FEBRUARY 13, 2018 8:30 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL NO. 2301 HD1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chairperson Lee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2301 HD1. This bill will provide the vehicle for the restructuring of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (HISA). The restructuring will attach the HISA to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture which will coordinate the implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. HISA will become the vehicle to organize the State's Invasive Species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement and outreach activities. The Department strongly supports this measure.

At the Department of Agriculture, we are keenly aware of the economic impact that invasive pest species has on our farmers. Additionally, new pest species affect the outdoor environment that we live, work, and play in. The establishment of the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority places the efforts of controlling and managing invasive pests under one regulatory authority with dedicated staff and resources. HISA will also have a board comprised of vested stakeholders, including a member from the agricultural industry, natural resource conservation, and the Native Hawaii cultural community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Submitted on: 2/12/2018 12:51:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE

OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: **Testimony in Support** of HB 2301 HD1, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

To the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No.2301 HD1 relating to an Invasive Species Authority.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. 2301 HD1 and supports its passage as it establishes the Invasive Species Authority.

House Bill No.2301 HD1 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawaii ("DPH"), 2016, as it restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture, to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and to improve coordination of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs.

The DPH Platform states that the "Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment are essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the Earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i. (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 407- 411 (2016)).

We support adequate resources to address the various invasive species on this Island beginning at the point of entry.

We promote solid waste policies that divert green waste and food scraps for making invasive-species free compost and enhanced mulch available to our farmers, landscapers, and residents. (Platform of DPH, P. 3, Lines 112-116 (2016)).

Given that House Bill No. 2301 HD1 establishes the Invasive Species Authority, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativeprorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 5:15:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

Hawai'i Island is ground zero for invasive species. Until there is a coordinated Authority with a strategy, staff, and adaquate funding, we will never be able to impact all the invasives that have come to our doorstep over the past 10-20 years. Looking back at the invasive species reports that were given to the Legislature since the 1990s they all called for the same thing. We are closer to that reality now than we have ever been. Let's not get "derailed." The future of our tourism, our ecosystem, our land values, and our quality of life depends on your positive vote. If we do not act now, our children & children's children will not have a safe place to live. We cannot let this happen! Mahalo



February 9, 2018

Representative Chris Lee, Chair Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Support of HB 2301, H.D. 1 Relating to Invasive Species Authority (Restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture).

Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in Conference Room 325

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 2301**, **H.D. 1**.

<u>HB 2301, H.D. 1</u>. This bill proposes to add a new chapter to the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and repeal HRS Chapter 194 to restructure the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (Council) into a new entity, the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (the Authority), attached administratively to the Department of Agriculture.

LURF's Position. LURF understands that while the Council has achieved a number of successes in the past decade, mitigation of invasive species threats and impacts continue to remain fragmented between agencies and is insufficiently supported by interagency data collection and management, response coordination, and statewide public outreach. The establishment of the Authority will expand upon the existing Council model by adding additional expertise to the board of directors, hiring new staff, and mandating new duties relating to the coordination of interagency invasive species and biosecurity efforts.

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection February 9, 2018 Page 2

Invasive species such as insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, tourism, agriculture, the natural environment, and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people, and already cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native wet, moist and dry land forests, and the spread of disease. Many more harmful pests now threaten to invade all the Hawaiian Islands and wreak further damage.

Support of and assistance to local farmers is essential to mitigate the threats and impacts of invasive species in Hawaii and to effectively protect Hawaii's natural resources and native species. HB 2301, H.D. 1 will assist local agricultural stakeholders by expanding the existing Council model to aid with the prevention and control of invasive species and ultimately, the protection of Hawaii's environment and economy.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 2301**, **H.D. 1** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 2:47:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Johanna van de Woestijne	Ninti Horizons LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Visitors enjoy the biodiversity, natural beauty, and relaxing swimming and hiking, which is enhanced by suitable planning and management of feral and invasive species. I fully support HB 2301, from a wildlife health perspective and human health too.

Best wishes for success with this measure,

Johanna van de Woestijne, MD

Stanford Medical School 1987

Medical Microbiology, San Jose State U

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/10/2018 9:45:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	Yes



The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i Program 923 Nu'uanu Avenue Honolulu, HI 96817 Tel(808) 537-4508 Fax(808) 545-2019 nature.org/hawaii

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2301 HD1 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Tuesday, February 13, 2013, 8:30AM, Room 325

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 43,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 2301 HD1 to restructure the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, attached administratively to the Department of Agriculture.

In 2015, the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) released its update to the 2002 report *Filling the Gaps in the Fight Against Invasive Species*. The update entitled, <u>Can't See the Forest for the (Albizia) Trees: An Invasive Species Update</u>, includes the recommendation that the Legislature consider amending the structure of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) to provide clearer authority to direct interagency coordination and provide resources and support for priority actions necessary in the fight against invasive species. While the HISC has had many successes, we agree that raising the status of the HISC to become the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, including an increased base budget for consistent staffing and programs, would be an important step forward in further addressing Hawai'i's invasive species challenges.

We also note that the LRB's report repeatedly states that a major gap in the fight against invasive species has been insufficient funding for invasive species work on the ground and for the operations and staffing of the HISC. Amongst the LRB's recommendations are a statewide biosecurity plan and for stable—even dedicated—funding to address invasive species threats. We agree and are pleased that the Department of Agriculture completed the comprehensive Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027 with the support of its many government and non-government partners and that the plan addresses the full range of invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research, and outreach priorities across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:30AM Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of HB 2301 HD1 Relating to invasive species program administration

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, a member of the Common Good Coalition, **supports HB 2301 HD1**, which transforms the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council into the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority in efforts to better deal with the invasion of unwanted and dangerous non-native pests.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, which started as an outdoors and hiking club, has been active in nature conservation in the islands for 50 years. Over the decades, we've seen first hand what happens when invasive plants like clidemia, strawberry guava, and kahiki ginger take over a native ecosystem and replace the landscape in a veritable monoculture of invasive weeds. The biodiversity of the land is lost and the habitat for many animals is lost forever, causing many of them to go extinct. We cannot continue to allow this to happen.

Due to modern transportation many invasive pests (e.g., dengue fever, zika virus, rat lung disease, coconut rhinoceros beetle, fire ants, miconia) arrive almost weekly in our islands. Not only do they wreak havoc on our native ecosystems, agricultural lands, and tourist areas, but they also have terrible consequences for human health.

We need to rethink how the different agencies that handle various aspects of biosecurity should be restructured in order to create a faster and more effective response system. Some of these invasions can be eliminated if we were quicker to identify the threat and wipe them out before they have a chance to establish and spread.

We urge the Committee to pass this measure, which will ultimately close the gaps and improve the coordination between the various agencies handling biosecurity such that Hawai'i can respond more effectively to invasive species.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2301 HD1.



The House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection February 13, 2018 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 325 State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 2301 HD1

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Committee Members,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) is in support of HB 2301 HD1, *Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration*. The aim of this measure is to restructure the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority (HISA), to be administratively attached to HDOA..

The HISC was created in 2003 by the legislature to improve state-level coordination to address the growing issues related to invasive species. Over the last 15 years, the HISC has addressed a broad spectrum of tasks related to policy, statewide coordination amongst agencies and individuals, and disbursement of interagency funding to support projects that fill gaps between agency mandates to manage invasive species. A lot has been accomplished through the leadership of the HISC lead agencies, volunteer working groups, and staff. However, we are not winning the battle, and we believe that we can do even more.

Some of the greatest impediments to addressing invasive species stems from our inability to raise capacity and resources commensurate with the need. Even with the successes of the current structure of the HISC there is always more work to be done. As the 2002 and 2016 LRB Reports and the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP) all state that the cost of not preventing or addressing invasive species is in the billions, and the HISC as it is currently structured cannot make the changes that are necessary. Restructuring the HISC as the HISA would elevate the issue and the work, align it more closely to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture to aid in implementing and tracking the HIBP, and create dedicated funding and staff. The HISA would also add non-agency stakeholder seats to the board to create a more representative board for decision-making.

Little Fire Ants, Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle, and Brown Tree Snake are a few of the target pests that the HISC, and the projects they support, continue to work on because they threaten our way of life. There is always the threat of the next pest wreaking havoc in our islands.

The HISC has become an essential component for addressing the problems associated with invasive species for the State. To ensure their continued role and increase their capacity to tackle complex issues with invasive species, we encourage the committee to **support HB 2301 HD1**. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha, Chelsea Arnott CGAPS Planner



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 13, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TESTIMONY ON HB 2301, HD 1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Room 325 8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports a robust Biosecurity Plan and provides the following comments on HB 2301, HD 1.

Hawaii agriculture has a long track record of implementing biosecurity measures to protect Hawaii's ecosystem. It was a pioneer in proactive and protective quarantine laws, dating back to 1888, when King Kalakaua signed into law a prohibition on the introduction of coffee trees and shrubs. While addressing natural resources protection (for example, the prohibition of foxes and land crabs), agriculture was a focal point so that diversified crops could be encouraged for commercial production, rather than continue to have Hawaii's people rely on mere subsistence. HFB believes that as we work to improve biosecurity and invasive species management, biosecurity in relation to agriculture must not be marginalized.

HFB has long-supported the State's efforts in creating the infrastructure and mechanisms to foster coordination in prevention and control of harmful invasive species. Similar to the goals outlined in this bill, the mission of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HRS 194), created in 2003, is, "...to provide policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful."

HFB also supported the addition and funding of the Biosecurity Chapter (HRS 150A Part VI), updating the Hawaii Quarantine Law, with objectives to (150A-52)

- (1) Establish a multi-dimensional system to prevent the entry into the State and interisland movement of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms without a permit; and
- (2) Respond effectively to eradicate, control, reduce, and suppress incipient pest populations and established pests and seize and dispose of prohibited or restricted organisms without a permit. [L 2008, c 236, pt of §2]

HB 2301 envisions further statutory and regulatory changes. We are hopeful that prior to those changes, a review of existing laws and regulations, and funding mechanisms will be conducted to avoid duplication of efforts and expenditures.

Especially during fiscally challenging times, HFB is a firm believer in collaborative efforts to facilitate implementation of programs. To maximize Hawaii's potential for biosecurity success, we respectfully suggest coordination with experts at USDA, Bishop Museum, UH, and HARC, as well as private organizations with similar goals, in lieu of immediately hiring additional staff for the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this critical issue. Hawaii Farm Bureau is a strong proponent of biosecurity; our farmers and ranchers are at the forefront of the battle with damaging and invasive species, while trying to meet Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability. The challenges of pervasive pests are serious, and they are already threatening the viability of sectors of Hawaii's agriculture industry. We respectfully request that the needs of production agriculture and its role in protecting Hawaii from invasive species be recognized and addressed in any new invasive species and biosecurity program.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.
By
Aloysius Helminck, PhD
Dean, College of Natural Sciences
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 2301 HD1 - RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 2301 HD1, relating to Invasive Species Program Administration.

The bill will restructure the existing Invasive Species Council to improve coordination amongst the various state, private and federal agencies involved in the detection, control and management of invasive species in Hawaii. The proposed administration will also oversee the implementation of a state interagency biosecurity plan, which will help to reduce the flood of invasive species, which threaten the ecology, economy and public health of the state. The university sees coordination in this bill as a means for it to contribute through education and basic and applied science to dealing with this problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 2301 HD1.

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:19:37 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
John Winter	Sustainabe Kohala	Support	No	ı

Comments:

I fully support HB2301. We've been fighting coqui frogs, little fire ants, and myriad other invasive species for years on the Big Island and we must ramp up our coordinated efforts to combat those here and prevent new ones from arriving and becoming established. This needs organization and funding. Please vote for this bill.

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:25:51 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Patients Without Time	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB2301,

Please protect our environment. Organic natural agriculture, without toxic contamination of our food and environment is necessary to protect the health, safety, and economic future of Hawaii's citizens.

Mahalo for your concerned consideration,

Mary Whispering Wind PWT Maui, volunteer

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:37:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

 Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vincent mina	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:52:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Jeri Di Pietro	GMO Free Kaua'i	Support	No	Ī

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:03:04 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Steacy	HFUU	Support	No



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Tuesday, February 13, 2018 – 8:30 AM - Room 325

RE: HB 2301 HD1 - Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration – In Support

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition supports HB 2301 HD1, which restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, to be administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture, to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and to improve coordination of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

Invasive species threaten agricultural production. In addition, they threaten the natural environment, the health of Hawaii's residents and the State's economy. We support HB 2301 HD1 as it will provide enhanced coordination and the leadership and staffing to help mitigate current and future threats and impacts. We hope the legislature will approve the \$10,500,000 appropriation request to enable implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We ask for your favorable consideration of this measure.

Lori Lum 808-544-8343 llum@wik.com

4 Ag Hawai'i

Hawai'i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union United

Hawai'i Food Industry Association

Hawai'i Food Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden Network

Ulupono Initiative

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 2:53:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Bacon	Rainbow Ridge West LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Support HB2301, please. Additional funding is needed to implement biosecurity, and particularly to eliminate or control invasive species.

Support farming - it's hard enough without having the stress of RLWD and LFA. Biosecurity depends on this.

Support tourism - a big draw of Hawaii for many repeat tourists is the lack of hazardous critters and disease.

Support the ohana and yourself - want to wake up with RLWD, feel your brain being eaten? LFA bites all haunting you for the next couple of weeks? That's if the coqui frogs let you sleep.

It's our kuleana to protect our keiki, our visitors, our food supply and ourselves.

OR JUST QUIT DOING ANYTHING? A half-baked approach is just delaying the inevitable spread of these to all islands, for a decade or two. THIS IS MOSTLY A CONTROLLABLE PROBLEM, if we have strong leaders. Are you?



<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 4:20:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu	Support	No



<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:00:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
	irene plunkett	HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 7:41:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Canham		Support	No

Comments:

Efficient and effective control of invasive species (plant/animal/microbial) is essential for our island ecology. I support the establishment of this centralized agency within the Department of Ag to coordinate state (and federal?) efforts. From bufos and mongooses and miconia to the anole lizards and maile pilau vines in my yard, we have more than enough obvious invasive species containment/prevention failures and we must do all we can to prevent further ecological contamination. Thanks.

Stephen Canham, PhD

Kaneohe

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 3:49:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlton York		Support	No

Comments:

Strong support the Ecosystem in Hawaii is too fragile, a quick and unified front to minimize invasives is important to protect native species and habitat!

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2018 9:58:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
laura Ramirez		Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:13:20 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crawford		Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:15:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Briana Hurley		Support	No

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:26:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Huntemer		Support	No

Comments:

As the so called Endangered Species Capitol of the world...we need to be doing way more than current funding allows to protect what is left of our unique and fragile ecosystems. HTA should be funding these kinds of activities because one of the reasons people would to viit our islands is because of the natural beauty found here. Mahalo.

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:09:47 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Pinto		Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of HB2301 because I believe it will strengthen implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, improve interagency coordination and strengthen early detection. It will also improve rapid response and result in increased control of invasive species at a time when the battle against invasives is at a critical point.

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:27:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
penny levin		Support	No

Comments:

As someone who works within the field of conservation and has been member of the CGAPS, I support this measure. We have been able to prohibit the transfer of any ohia materials from the big island but not nursery materials that contain little red fire ants or coqui, with the result of growing frequency of dispersal to other islands. My hope regarding the designation of members of the authority is that in situations that may require quarantine of products from one island to the next to stop the spread of invasive species and diseases that the costs of no quarantine to uninfested island economies, farms, nurseries and ecosystems be as compelling as the impacts of quarantine to the island(s) of origin. I would also urge that this new authority be tasked with working with the DOA and DBEDT to support the increase of each island's self-sufficiency as a critical mechanism for reducing the need for imports and inter-island transport of fresh and wood products, a major source of invasive species for all islands.

Mahalo.

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:36:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
John NAYLOR	N/A	Support	No	

Comments:

Aloha All,

Coordination of agencies to control invsive species makes sense.

John Naylor Makwao

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 12:17:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Datta		Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:42:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Best		Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 12:32:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sallyjane Bodnar		Support	No

<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:47:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas		Support	No

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 2:25:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Ī	Dennis F Lokmer	none	Support	No	

Comments:

It appears this bill will improve current Invasive Species legislation.



<u>HB-2301-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2018 6:28:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No



Submitted on: 2/12/2018 7:47:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Islands like ours can be devastated by invasive species. We need to improve protection of our aina.