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 & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

### In consideration of SENATE BILL 2399, SENATE DRAFT 2 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Senate Bill 2399, Senate Draft 2 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, and offers the following comments.** 

With regard to the amendments in Senate Draft 2 in SECTION 5, which states that any existing civil service or exempt positions of the HISC shall be transferred to the HISA, the Department notes that the HISC does not have any dedicated civil service or exempt positions. Currently one civil service position at the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife, a Wildlife Biologist V, has been utilized to partially focus on HISC issues, while also working on issues specific to the Division. This biologist position predates the creation of the HISC and should be retained by the Division to continue coordinating invasive species issues specific to the Division. The only staff working solely on HISC issues are three specialists in temporary positions provided by the University of Hawaii's Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit. These positions would be replaced by positions at the HISA.

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

## 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 CONVEY ANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

LAND STATE PARKS implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. The full Biosecurity Plan is available for review at <a href="http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/">http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/</a>.

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.

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. A summary of these proposed projects is available on the HISC website, <a href="http://hisc.hawaii.gov">http://hisc.hawaii.gov</a>.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

### State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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

## TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

## BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

## SENATE BILL NO. 2399 SD2 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chairperson Lee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2399 SD2. 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.







JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors ROY CATALANI ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 13, 2018 8:30 a.m. State Capitol, Room 325

### S.B. 2399, S.D. 2 RELATING TO RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill, which restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority.

The DOT recognizes that invasive species arrive through the department's ports of entry and that its membership in the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority will add value to this interagency coordinating authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

### SB-2399-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 7:02:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Tuesday, March 13, 2018
8:30 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 325

RE: Testimony in **Support** of **SB2399 SD2**, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

To the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Energy & 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 **SB2399 SD2** relating to the Invasive Species Authority: Establishment; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SB2399 SD2** and strongly supports its passage as it 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, and appropriates funds for the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects.

**SB2399 SD2** is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH") which provides that "[a]griculture in our state must be preserved and its future strengthened. Sufficient prime agricultural lands must be maintained for the health, economic well-being and sustenance of the people. We believe in an integrated approach to agricultural innovation and sustainability.

This approach includes, but is not limited to, the adoption of the native

Hawaiian concept of ahupua'a, an integrated approach to land management. This could also include the development of economy, land and ocean use policies that foster sustainable crops both for local consumption and for export, policies to foster agriculture-related infrastructure at shipping points, and increased inspection to protect against invasive species and to encourage reduced holding times.

We support adequate resources to address the various invasive species on this island beginning at the point of We entry. promote solid waste policies that divert green waste and food scraps for making invasive species free compost and enhanced mulch available to our farmer, landscapers, and residents. (Platform of the DPH, P. 2, Lines 76-78, 82-86, 112-116 Given that SB2399 SD2 restructures the Hawaii (2016).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, and appropriates funds for the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.
Sincerely yours,
/s/ Melodie Aduja
Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

Eileen O'Hara Council Member Council District 4

**Chair:** Environmental Management Committee



**Phone:** (808) 965-2712 **Fax:** (808) 961-8912

Email: eileen.ohara@hawaiicounty.gov

Vice Chair: Planning Committee and

Agriculture, Water & Energy Sustainability Committee

### County of Hawaii

Hawaii County Council
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Representative Chris Lee Chair, House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection Hawai'i State House of Representatives

March 12, 2018

Re: In Support of Senate Bill 2399, from Hawai'i County Council District 4

To be heard by EEP on Tuesday, 03-13-18 8:30AM in House conference room 325

Aloha Chair Lee and Committee Members:

I'm writing to express my support of Senate Bill 2399, which restructures the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, to be administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture, to coordinate implementation of the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan and to improve coordination of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs. It also appropriates funds for the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects.

The introduction of an invasive species to an area – intentional or otherwise – can have devastating effects on a native environment. Hawai'i, with its delicate and isolated ecosystems, is especially vulnerable to these potentially irreparable disturbances. In 2014, tropical storm Iselle wreaked havoc on my home District of Puna. Albizia trees (an introduced species and one of the world's fastest growing hardwoods) were a leading cause of damage, destroying power lines and blocking roads. Residents were left without electricity for weeks, and road damages amounted to over \$13 million.

As a representative and decades-long resident of the District of Puna, I do not hesitate to support any measure to regulate the risk invasive species pose. Please consider the important impact this Bill will have on the environment and economy of Hawai'i, and contact me if you have any questions about my support or knowledge of the subject.

Sincerely,

Eileen O'Hara Council Member

Elsen O'Hara

Council District 4

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 11:32:25 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

### Comments:

This is the. Most important bill of the Session. Reorganization of our agencies and strategy is critical if we are ever going to achieve any measure of success in containment.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:09:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

### Comments:

I strongly support this SB 2399. Thank you kindly.

Mahalo, Irene Plunkett



Committee of Energy and Environmental Protection March 13, 2018 8:30am Conference Room 325 State Capitol

Testimony in Support of SB2399

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Little Fire Ant HUI strongly supports SB2399. LFA alone pose a serious threat to our state, yet additional and more devastating pests will arrive without stronger biosecurity. Effective biosecurity requires a comprehensive plan. SB2399 is that plan. This critical need has been unresolved for over twenty-five years:

In 1992 Nature Conservancy of Hawaii reported: "The magnitude of the threat posed by continual introduction of alien species into the State has [made apparent] that stopping the influx of new pests is essential to Hawaii's future well-being. A multi-agency planning effort is urgently needed to develop a cohesive and comprehensive pest prevention and control system."

In 2002 the Legislative Reference Bureau stated: "The present system...is plagued with serious gaps and leaks." Based on this report the Hawaii State Legislature recommended a coordinating body with dedicated staff.

In 2015 the Legislative Reference Bureau stated: "Since the writing of the 2002 report, the seriousness of the invasive species problem in Hawaii has dramatically increased and cannot be underestimated...the State and its partners need a robust, comprehensive plan of action to meet this threat to its continued existence and a sustained commitment to support the execution of that plan."

Now is the time to act. Pass SB2399. Time is of the essence...

Carolyn Dillon Founder

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 11:50:33 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	HFUU	Support	No

### Comments:

In Maui upcountry (Kula/Keokea) is being overrun with an invasive creeper which has grown over trees, fences, utility poles, even road signs & anywhere it can get a grip. And that's just one area.



### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

In SUPPORT of SB 2399 SD2 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, **strongly supports SB 2399 SD2**, 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 strong support of SB 2399 SD2.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:31:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Datta	Hawaii Farmers Union United Kona Chapter	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 7:08:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

Springer Kaye 23 E. Kawili St. Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 933-3340 biisc@hawaii.edu www.biisc.org



Testimony in Support: Senate Bill 2399 House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection Tuesday, March 13, 2018 8:30 A.M., Conference Room 325

Aloha

BIISC strongly supports Senate Bill 2399 SD2, which will establish the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority as a coordinating body, properly staffed and authorized to coordinate invasive species response among the agencies and implement the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. In addition, this bill appropriates significant funding to the invasive species grants program, ensuring that the daily, boots-on-the-ground survey, response, and outreach efforts are continued and expanded.

This measure is desperately needed. Every year new invasive species pests continue to arrive and become established in our islands. Our facilities and biosecurity protocols are no longer adequate to the scope of the problem. In 16 years we have yet to scale up to the level of funding recommended by the LRB's 2002 report. The 100+ tasks included in the statewide biosecurity plan will take at least ten years to implement, if they are funded, so the time to begin is now!

Just this month I was notified by a community member about a new invasive woodboring beetle that attacks breadfruit, cacao, citrus, palms, and kukui. The pest burrows into the heart of the tree, lays its eggs, and the larvae tunnel through the wood until the tree collapses. There is no known treatment, other than cutting down the tree and destroying the wood. Unfortunately, although the species was identified by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture in 2009, at the height of the economic downturn, the state lacked the staff and resources to mount any response. Now we have record-breaking tourism and employment statistics statewide, yet the HDOA entomologist position on Hawaii Island is vacant and we've lost half of our UH-CTAHR Extension Agents, our experts that could direct such an effort.

In the absence of agency capacity, when a pest like this slips into Hawaii BIISC is often called upon to be the clean-up crew; BIISC must try to clean up the mess after new bad things arrive. When BIISC is adequately funded, we have been successful in our eradication programs. We eradicated axis deer from the island with dedicated funding and broad interagency support. Though albizia is well established, we spearheaded a task force that prioritized 18 hazard mitigation projects to be done in five years. We are half way through, well under budget, and are just at the beginning of Year 3.

In the past five years we have driven half a dozen other target species down to almost undetectable levels, and now just monitor the sites to make sure they don't make a comeback. Before 2013, our funding was so low or inconsistent we could make little headway on these same pests.

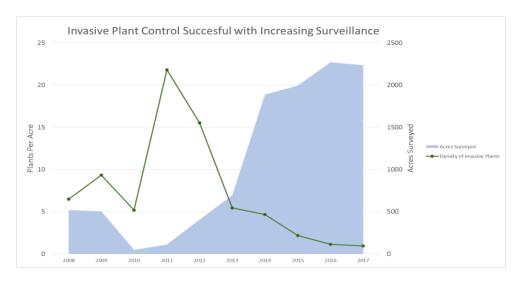


Figure 1: The large shaded area represents the acreage surveyed each year, while the colored line represents the average density of eradication targets in managed areas. The plant density has steadily declined since funding, and our ability to survey large areas, has increased. Density is now at less than 1 plant per acre. (BIISC presentation to the International Conference on Invasive Plants Management, 2017).

Hawaii Island is proud of our heritage and identity at the heart of the agricultural industry, but our agricultural economy means we import a wide variety of high-risk items all year round, and that puts the island at risk as the state's entry point for new invasive pests. A comprehensive biosecurity program will stop the influx of new pests and contain or eradicate the ones that are here. A great deal of our success depends on funding.

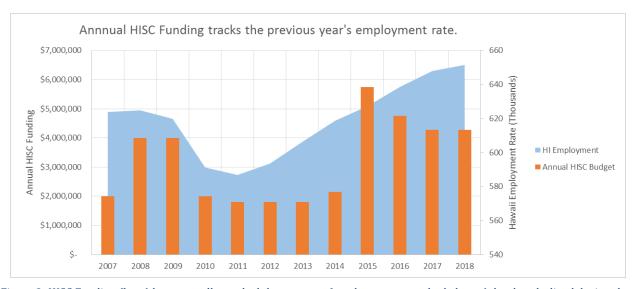


Figure 2: HISC Funding (bars) has generally tracked the economy (employment rate, shaded area), but has declined during the past three years, to approximately the same amount as ten years ago, in spite of strong economic growth and increased need for invasive species research and response.

During the last decade the funding provided for invasive species programming in Hawaii has generally tracked the state of the economy. That is, until recently. While all economic measures have shown steady growth since 2015, the funding released to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council had declined by 26%, by \$1.5 Mil dollars. This, in spite of new pest arrivals, ever greater need for research and response, and demonstrated success of funded projects.

Last year there were \$12 Mil in grant requests for about \$4 Mil in available funds. Almost all were well-reasoned, necessary programming, many quite urgent and wellmatched by external funding sources. This gap must be filled.

BIISC supports this bill because <u>creating the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority is</u> the right way to get the job done. Empowering this interagency coordinating body with the status and the funds needed to deal decisively with invasive species is the best step the legislature can take right now to ensure our economy, agriculture and natural resources are sustainable into the next generations.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Springer Kaye

Springer Kaye

**BIISC Manager** 



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

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

**RE:** SB 2399 SD2 - Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration – In Support

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

The Local Food Coalition supports SB 2399 SD2, 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 SB 2399 SD2 as it will provide enhanced coordination and the leadership, staffing and funding to help mitigate current and future threats and impacts.

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



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

March 13, 2018

## HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## TESTIMONY ON SB 2399, SD 2, 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 SB 2399, SD 2.

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]

SB 2399 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.



The Nature Conservancy, Hawaiʻi Program 923 Nuʻuanu Avenue Honolulu, HI 96817 Tel (808) 537-4508 Fax (808) 545-2019 nature.org/hawaii

# Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i Supporting S.B.2399 SD2 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 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 40,000 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 S.B. 2399 SD2 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 released its update to the 2002 report *Filling the Gaps in the Fight Against Invasive Species*. In that update, *Can't See the Forest for the (Albizia) Trees: An Invasive Species Update*, can be found at: <a href="http://lrbhawaii.org/reports/legrpts/lrb/2015/invasive.pdf">http://lrbhawaii.org/reports/legrpts/lrb/2015/invasive.pdf</a>. One of the LRB's recommendations in this new report is 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 prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research, and outreach priorities across the state. We agree and are pleased that the Department of Agriculture completed that comprehensive biosecurity plan.



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

### **Testimony in Support of SB 2399 SD2**

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

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) is in support of SB 2399 SD2, *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 SB 2399 SD2**. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha, Christy Martin & Chelsea Arnott CGAPS Planner





HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 325 TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018 AT 8:30 A.M.

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

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2399 SD2 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce. I am writing share our support of SB2399 SD2.

Agriculture is extremely important to our community and state and the introduction and spread of invasive species continues to be a growing problem. Therefore, we support a strong biosecurity plan to protect the agriculture industry and help sustain our island communities. We also recognize much effort is being done in this area and feel that should be examined to avoid duplication. We ask that this bill be passed.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter and therefore ask that this bill be passed.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

Lamela Jumpap

President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2018 5:48:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

### SB-2399-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2018 9:42:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Oppose	No

### Comments:

aloha, as a person involved in kona agriculture for over 30 years, i know first-hand how devastating invasive species are, particulartly LFA.

please support this and all bills whifch would help our state resist the many horrific impacts of leaving these pests unchecked.

mahalo and sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 3:35:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 3:45:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:33:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No	

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:36:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:46:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Craig	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:51:25 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Mio Chee	Individual	Support	No	1

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 5:53:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Do anything to improve the Invasive Species program

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 8:36:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
christopher buehler	Individual	Support	No	

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/10/2018 8:57:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 10:05:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Kobsa	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

As a farmer and conservationist I feel the negative effects of invasive species in my life every day. I am very much in favor of this bill that creates Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, which will move us toward full implementation of the biosecurity plan and provide funding for important work on dealing with invasive species.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity,

Ann Kobsa

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 11:32:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Setsuko Morinoue	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

By definition Invasive Species means it negatively impacts Native Species, Humans and/or our Economy. Little Fire Ants is just one great example in my farm that harms all three. What will come in next? We need Biosecurity and a comprehensive emergency plan today.

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 11:36:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gil Solomon	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

SB 2399 should warrant the approval of passage by all parties involved in the process, as this measure is critical to protecting the Hawaiian Island from unwanted invasive species that would have a negative effect on all citizens and the agricultural environment

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:25:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No	

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:31:47 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Chee	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:39:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Chee	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:03:20 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloi	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:50:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan I Jarvi	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:57:55 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Greenleaf	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Strong support...Hawaii Island is sufferning greatly from lack of support dealing with invasives...they are spreading and will cost much more to deal with when the invasives overtake more islands..

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 9:44:50 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 4:08:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David & Carol Kuraoka	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Invasive Species negatively impact Native Species, Humans and/or our Economy. Little Fire Ants are an important example of invase species that harm all three. What invasive species will come next? We urgently need Biosecurity and a comprehensive emergency plan today.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 3:56:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Stillings	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:27:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miho Moirnoue	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

It is the responsibilty of the state to protect there people and the aina. Invasive species such as the fire ants is a direct threat to the life style of local citizens, tourism, agricultural sustainability and economy. We need Biosecurity and a comprehensive emergency plan now!

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:34:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne Harvey	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

We are under seige and/or under threat of Little Fire Ants, psuedo slugs carrying Angiostongylis cantonensis (rat lung fever vectors), Coffee Borer Beetle, Banana Bunchy Top Virus, Rapid Ohia Death (Ceratocystis fimbriata), inumerable invasive 'ornamental plants', and animals such as mongoose that are destroying our native Hawaii habitats, devastating our ag economy and ability to establish sustainable food supply, and degrading our communities as safe and welcoming places to live and raise our keiki. PLEASE steamline implementation of the HI Interagency Bio Security Plan. Please pass SB2399 . mahalo.

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 5:52:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cathy Cunningham-Little	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

I have recently seen and experienced the painful bites of Little Fire Ants on the Big Island. LFA negatively impacts our native species, humans, and eventually our economy. We need biosecurity and a comprehensive emergency plan today.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 6:33:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 6:26:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:01:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
A Kathleen Lee	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Honorable Senators,

We need to improve coordination of the State's **invasive species prevention**, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs. Appropriates funds for the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects.

PLEASE support this bill,

April Lee

Hawi, HI

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 10:59:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malia Hayes	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Biosecurity needs to be a top priority for the state. Honesty and transparency about the significant threats to our health, lifestyle and economy is needed. I have experienced the transition of living with quiet to living with coquis. My then landlord admitted that he should have tried to control them when I first brought it to his attention. I moved. I have friends who are actively controlling Little Fire Ants right now. I recently met a man who explained that he is still recoverying from rat lungworm disease - a year later. I know of a business losing income due to a pregnant woman being afraid to catch Zika in Hawaii. The list goes on.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2018 11:23:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philipp LaHaela Walter	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 7:47:31 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Reed	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

It is obvious our current laws are not stopping the spread of invasive speices. This bill needs a healthy level of fuding to improve control and we can't keep waiting for the magic of bio-logical controls to be discovered. On the Hamakua Coast Miconia and Albezia are well estabished in some areas but only getting stated in others. In the watersheds with new infestations manuel controls are possible but if the invaders are permitted to grow to seed bearing it is too late. Let's nip it in the bud more often.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:13:23 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariko Reed	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

By definition Invasive Species means it negatively impacts Native Species, Humans and/or our Economy. We need Biosecurity and a comprehensive emergency plan today.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:16:57 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:33:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donn DeShayne	Individual	Support	No

BIISC 23 E. Kawili St. Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 933-3340 biisc@hawaii.edu www.biisc.org



RE: SB2399

Aloha,

BIISC would like to express strong support for SB2399, which creates the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority as a first step in implementing the comprehensive Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and allocates dedicated funding for invasive species control in Hawaii.

Over the last 20 years on the Big Island, we have witnessed an onslaught of negative impacts to residential life, the agriculture industry, and our economy due to harmful introduced species. Children are stung at school and in their beds by little fire ants. Residents have endured serious disability due to the rat lungworm parasite. Homeowners have suffered millions of dollars in financial losses due to falling albizia. Kona coffee growers struggle to control coffee berry borer, even as a new introduction, the longhorn beetle, has begun to destroy cacao trees in Puna. Ranchers across the island have waged a decades-long battle against christmas berry, gorse, and fire weed, only to receive the grim news in 2017 that a new spittle bug is ravaging hundreds of acres of pasture – with no known treatment. Rapid ohi'a death threatens to devastate our watersheds. In our island communities, invasive species are not an abstract concept, but a reality that impacts each of us on a daily basis.

We urge this legislature to be the one that begins the turnaround for Hawaii. Invasive species must be taken seriously if our agriculture, tourism, and way of life in Hawaii is to survive. Solid coordination between state departments is critical to the success of any invasive species response plan, and the proposed HISA structure will allow for stronger collaboration both within the state and with our county, federal, and NGO partners. Dedicated funding is critical for planning adequate responses to current and potential threats.

If one thing is clear from the economic research on invasive species, it is that dollars spent on prevention, early detection, and rapid response are worth hundreds and even thousands more in savings down the line. Little fire ant alone is predicted to cost billions to Hawaii in just the next three decades if we do not improve our response. Passing SB2399, with the associated funding allocation, is a crucial step in the right direction for Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Franny Kinslow Brewer Communications Director

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:36:57 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Franny Brewer	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Please support this bill. As a resident of Puna, my life is greatly impacted by invasive species. We need a comprehensive and thoroughly funded approach to invasive species control.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:59:32 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce Mosher	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

This makes good sense. Invasive species diminish our beauty and threaten the established order of nature - often without a natural check to limit them.

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 10:03:18 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawehi Lopez	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

I am in strong support of SB2399. As a Hawai'i Island resident who has lived here my whole life I have seen how invasive species negatively affect the environment, economy, and human health and completely transform our way of life. Establishing the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority will fill many gaps in this fight towards establishing improved biosecurity and managing current and future invasive species issues.

<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 11:17:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R. Kinslow	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

While I support the intent of this measure, I'm not convinced the USDOA can administer this program effectively given their lack of oversight and ability to hire qualified personnel record.

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 2:01:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leilani Zimmerman	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

I am writing to strongly urge you to support this bill. I am deeply troubled by the vulnerability of Hawai'is unique ecosystems and the impact dramatic and destructive impact of invasive species. If we do not take action to ensure biosecrity now I worry that we will be too late to restore and protect the Hawaii and our ability to grow food naturally and locally for our communities.



<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 5:20:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

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



<u>SB-2399-SD-2</u> Submitted on: 3/12/2018 6:38:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No