

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ERADICATE THE STATE'S FERAL CHICKEN POPULATION AND REQUESTING THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION TO PROVIDE A PEST DESIGNATION FOR FERAL CHICKENS.

WHEREAS, feral chickens have become a nuisance in the State, especially in suburban and urban communities; and

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WHEREAS, because feral chickens face no natural predators on Kauai; the island has become overrun with tens of thousands of feral chickens; and

WHEREAS, the feral chicken population has also become a significant problem and cause for resident complaints on the windward side of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, feral chickens trespass into yards and gardens, destroy property, damage food crops, and jeopardize native plants; and

WHEREAS, feral chickens create road hazards, spread disease to domestic animals and native wildlife, and lead to frequent noise complaints; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the head of the Department of Agriculture Plant Industry Division is requested to study and evaluate the need to designate feral chickens as a "pest for control or eradication" or to create a new designation for feral chickens that allows residents to treat chickens like rats and similar pests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture is urged to develop a program to eradicate the State's feral chicken population; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Head of the Department of Agriculture Plant Industry Division.

OFFERED BY:

Dans Carnos
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Attatantom:
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MAR - 6 2020