

JAN 27 2021

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PLANT QUARANTINE BRANCH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that responding quickly  
2 to newly detected invasive species can often prevent the species  
3 from becoming firmly established, saving taxpayers money in the  
4 long term. The United States Department of Agriculture has  
5 stated that foreign pests and disease already cost the United  
6 States' economy tens of billions of dollars annually in lower  
7 crop values, eradication programs, emergency payments to  
8 farmers, and increased costs for food and other natural  
9 resources.

10           Currently, with the spread of coffee leaf rust fungus,  
11 State agencies lack the resources, such as quarantine  
12 facilities, and response mechanisms to deal with these newly  
13 identified threats and may be missing opportunities to eliminate  
14 them. Because the introduction of coffee leaf rust fungus as an  
15 alien invasive species poses serious problems to the State's  
16 ecosystem, any introduction of alien invasive species via the  
17 airport or any other entry points throughout the State may lead



1 to significant cumulative impacts. The lack of resources and  
2 facilities can allow invasive species to become established in  
3 the State, making mitigation efforts more protracted and  
4 expensive.

5 The legislature further finds that the plant quarantine  
6 branch of the department of agriculture is tasked with  
7 preventing the introduction and spread of harmful pests and  
8 diseases into the State by regulating domestic import,  
9 performing border inspections, and facilitating post-border  
10 detection and control of agricultural pests. The plant  
11 quarantine branch is a critical component in meeting the treat  
12 of invasive species entering Hawaii and spreading throughout  
13 Hawaii through the State's ports of entry.

14 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
15 moneys out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i to  
16 expand state-run quarantine facilities under the jurisdiction of  
17 the department of agriculture's plant quarantine branch.

18 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2021-2022 and the  
21 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



# S.B. NO. 1405

1 2022-2023 for the expansion of state-run quarantine facilities  
2 under the jurisdiction of the department of agriculture's plant  
3 quarantine branch.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
5 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. The department of agriculture shall submit a  
7 report of its findings and recommendations relating to the  
8 expenditure of funds towards the purpose of this Act, including  
9 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than  
10 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of  
11 2022.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



# S.B. NO. 1405

**Report Title:**

Department of Agriculture; Plant Quarantine Branch;  
Appropriations

**Description:**

Appropriates general revenues to expand state-run quarantine facilities under the jurisdiction of the department of agriculture's plant quarantine branch.

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

