

JAN 22 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INSPECTION FEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the silent invasion
2 of Hawaii by alien invasive species threatens Hawaii's economy,
3 natural environment, human health, and lifestyle. The Hawaii
4 interagency biosecurity plan provides a coordinated path forward
5 to increase support for local agriculture, protect the
6 environment, and safeguard for the health and lifestyle of
7 Hawaii's people by protecting against invasive species. The
8 plan notes that imports to the State, and specifically the
9 importation of plant material, is one of the main pathways for
10 the introduction of harmful pests and diseases, such as coqui
11 frogs (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*), nettle caterpillars (*Darna*
12 *pallivitta*), ohia rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*), and rapid ohia
13 death (*Ceratocystis fimbriata*).

14 The plan also notes that invasive species have massive
15 economic costs for the State, counties, local industries, and
16 residents. As of 2016, little fire ants (*Wasmannia*
17 *auropunctata*) already cost Hawaii county \$174,000,000 per year



1 alone in management costs and economic damage to agriculture,
2 nurseries, residents, and other sectors.

3 The legislature further finds that the public are burdened
4 with the economic cost of mitigating and adjusting to invasive
5 species' spread as these species affect agriculture and food
6 security, native ecosystems, property values, and quality of
7 life. The costs of invasive species prevention and mitigation
8 should be borne at the source of their entry to the State, which
9 is predominantly freight imports.

10 The purpose of this Act is to increase the freight import
11 fee to provide additional funding for programs to inspect,
12 quarantine, prevent, and mitigate the impacts of invasive
13 species in the State.

14 SECTION 2. Section 150A-5.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

16 "(b) The fee shall be assessed and collected on the net
17 weight of the imported freight computed on the basis of [~~75~~
18 ~~cents~~] \$1.50 for every one thousand pounds of freight, or part
19 thereof, brought into the State."



S.B. NO. 491

1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY: *Mike Hubbard*



S.B. NO. 491

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Import Fee; Inspection, Quarantine, and Eradication Service Fee and Charge

Description:

Increases the inspection, quarantine, and eradication service fee and charge from 75 cents to \$1.50 for every 1,000 pounds of freight or part thereof brought into the State.

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