
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that gorse (*Ulex*
2 *europaeus*), which is native to western Europe and was introduced
3 to Hawaii as a food plant for sheep and as a "living fence", has
4 become an invasive species due to its aggressive seed dispersal.
5 Gorse has proven very difficult to eradicate and detrimental in
6 native habitats; thus far, it is known to exist on the islands
7 of Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, and Molokai.

8 The legislature further finds that the Aina Mauna legacy
9 program, unanimously approved by the Hawaiian homes commission,
10 is the department of Hawaiian home lands' guiding framework for
11 well-coordinated management for long-term protection and
12 perpetuation of the Aina Mauna ecosystem in the Humuulu-Piihonua
13 area located on the northeast slopes of Mauna Kea. The
14 program's mission is to protect approximately fifty-six thousand
15 acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically,
16 culturally, and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian
17 home lands trust, its beneficiaries, and the community.



1 The legislature further finds that a significant need
2 exists for greater economic opportunities for native Hawaiians,
3 some of which could be provided through the collection and
4 product development of gorse from Mauna Kea.

5 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to establish a pilot
6 program within the Aina Mauna legacy program of the department
7 of Hawaiian home lands to remove and harvest gorse from Mauna
8 Kea and develop it as a marketable product to expand economic
9 opportunities for native Hawaiians.

10 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a pilot program
11 within the Aina Mauna legacy program of the department of
12 Hawaiian home lands to remove and harvest gorse from Mauna Kea
13 and develop it as a marketable product to expand economic
14 opportunities for native Hawaiians.

15 (b) The department of Hawaiian home lands shall submit to
16 the legislature a report regarding the pilot program no later
17 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions
18 of 2023, 2024, and 2025.

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2021-2022 for



1 the establishment of a pilot program within the Aina Mauna
2 legacy program of the department of Hawaiian home lands to
3 remove and harvest gorse from Mauna Kea and develop it as a
4 marketable product to expand economic opportunities for native
5 Hawaiians.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
7 Hawaiian home lands for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021, and
9 shall be repealed on June 30, 2025.

10

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 26 2021



H.B. NO. 1179

Report Title:

Gorse; Mauna Kea; Removal, Harvesting, and Product Development; Pilot Program; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a pilot program within the Aina Mauna legacy program of the department of Hawaiian home lands to remove and harvest gorse from Mauna Kea and develop it as a marketable product to expand economic opportunities for native Hawaiians. Requires reports to the legislature. Appropriates funds. Sunsets 6/30/2025.

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