

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
INTERIM OF 2023

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

DATE: Wednesday, November 22, 2023
TIME: 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

Recent media reports have highlighted outbreaks of several notorious invasive pests, most notably Little Fire Ant (LFA) on Oahu and the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) on multiple islands. Both outbreaks threaten to cause considerable damage to natural and agricultural resources in the state, as well as a deterioration to residents' way of life.

The purpose of this briefing is for the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS), the Office of Consumer Protection, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (OCP, DCCA), and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to update the committees on the actions underway to address these outbreaks.

The presenters will also discuss the steps being taken to ensure that pest-infested products are not knowingly being transported and offered for sale to consumers, thereby accelerating the infestation. Additionally, the HDOA will clarify why it has not enacted rules to ensure accountability and empower action to prevent the distribution of infested products to consumers across the state.

AGENDA

1. Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species
 - a. Update on Response, Management, and Public Education
2. DCCA Office of Consumer Protection
 - a. Response to Infested Plant Purchases by Consumers
3. Hawaii Department of Agriculture
 - a. LFA and CRB Outbreak

- b. Status on HAR Chapter 4-72 Rulemaking
- c. Department Reorganization

[Link to Informational Briefing Materials](#)

No public testimony will be accepted.

The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e., interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter), please contact the committee clerk at least 24 hours prior to the hearing so that arrangements can be made.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 587-7215.

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Chair

Senator Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate