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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL, IN COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND COUNTY OF HAWAII, TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A FIVE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO MITIGATE AND CONTROL THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE POPULATION OF FERAL CHICKENS.

WHEREAS, feral chickens have become a persistent nuisance, particularly in suburban and urban residential communities; and

WHEREAS, feral chickens wander into yards and gardens, digging up plants, damaging food crops, and jeopardizing native plants and resources; and

WHEREAS, feral roosters crow at all times of the day and night, which has led to numerous noise complaints by residents throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, droppings from feral chickens are unsanitary and create a health hazard; and

WHEREAS, feral chickens and birds also carry diseases that threaten other animals, including native birds; and

WHEREAS, the noticeable increase in the number of feral chickens and birds also creates a road hazard for drivers who must suddenly stop or swerve to avoid them; and

WHEREAS, to protect Hawaii's ecosystem, natural resources, and the health and safety of its residents, it is critical that the State work together with the counties and the affected communities, including hunters, farmers, and natural resource managers, to identify and implement collaborative solutions to control the significant increase in the population of feral chickens and pigs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, in coordination and collaboration with the City and County of Honolulu and County of Hawaii, is requested to establish and implement a five-year pilot program to mitigate and control the significant increase in the population of feral chickens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the five-year pilot program is requested to include the provision of free traps to members of the public to capture the feral animals, collection of traps containing the captured feral animals, and return of empty traps to the members of the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the five-year pilot program is requested to begin in the areas of Moanalua, Kalihi, Kalaeloa, and Kapolei in the City and County of Honolulu and the Puna area in the County of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is requested to submit an interim report regarding the five-year pilot program to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026, and a final report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2028; provided that the reports are requested to include:

(1) Findings and recommendations relating to the five-year pilot program's efficacy in mitigating and controlling the significant increase in the population of feral chickens, including any proposed legislation; and

(2) A recommendation on whether the five-year pilot program should be extended or expanded into other areas of the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Co-Chairpersons of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and Mayor of the County of Hawaii.

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