

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND THE COUNTY OF HAWAII, TO COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A FIVE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO MITIGATE AND CONTROL THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE POPULATION OF FERAL CHICKENS, ROOSTERS, AND PIGS.

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

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

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

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13 WHEREAS, droppings from feral chickens and roosters are
14 unsanitary and create a health concern; and

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

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

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23 WHEREAS, in addition to feral chickens and roosters, there
24 has been a significant increase in the population of feral pigs,
25 which are not native to Hawaii, migrating into suburban and
26 urban residential communities, causing damage to properties,
27 creating unsafe environments in residents' backyard lawns,
28 public parks, golf courses, and cemeteries; bellowing, snorting,
29 and even screaming in the night; depositing foul-smelling



1 excrement; scavenging food in trash cans; and multiplying at a
2 significant rate; and

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4 WHEREAS, feral pigs are identified as one of the world's
5 worst invasive alien species, gaining notoriety in recent
6 decades due to their devastating impacts to agricultural crops
7 and threats to species of conservation concern; and

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9 WHEREAS, feral pigs are unique among other problematic
10 invasive species in that they are omnivorous generalists that
11 function as both large predators and herbivores; and

12
13 WHEREAS, feral pigs prey on a variety of wildlife and plant
14 communities, disturbing nest sites and plant assemblages,
15 hybridizing with other endangered suidae, competing with native
16 fauna, and acting as vectors for disease transmission; and

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18 WHEREAS, in addition to directly impacting wildlife and
19 plant communities, feral pigs disturb ecosystem structures
20 through their unique rooting and digging behavior, and are
21 considered ecosystem engineers that have considerable secondary
22 effects on organisms by physically altering their habitat
23 characteristics; and

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25 WHEREAS, feral pigs, however, have also played a unique
26 role in local cultural traditions and are valued by local
27 residents for hunting and food security; and

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

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37 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
38 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
39 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
40 Agriculture, Department of Land and Natural Resources,
41 Department of Health, the City and County of Honolulu, and the
42 County of Hawaii, are requested to collaborate to establish and



1 implement a five-year pilot program to mitigate and control the
2 significant increase in the population of feral chickens,
3 roosters, and pigs; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the five-year pilot program is
6 requested to include the provision of free traps to members of
7 the public to capture the feral animals, collection of traps
8 containing the captured feral animals, and return of empty traps
9 to the members of the public; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the five-year pilot program is
12 requested to begin in the areas of Moanalua, Kalihi, Kalaeloa,
13 and Kapolei in the City and County of Honolulu and the Puna area
14 in the County of Hawaii; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
17 is requested to submit an interim report regarding the five-year
18 pilot program to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
19 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026, and a final
20 report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
21 convening of the Regular Session of 2028; provided that the
22 reports are requested to include:
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- 24 (1) Findings and recommendations relating to the five-year
25 pilot program's efficacy in mitigating and controlling
26 the significant increase in the population of feral
27 chickens, roosters, including any proposed
28 legislation; and
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- 30 (2) Recommendation on whether the five-year pilot program
31 should be extended or expanded into other areas of the
32 State; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
36 Board of Agriculture, Chairperson of the Board of Land and
37 Natural Resources, Director of Health, Mayor of the City and
38 County of Honolulu, and Mayor of the County of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: *Anna Mercado Kim*

