

MAR 10 2023

SENATE 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
30 excrement; scavenging food in trash cans; and multiplying at a
31 significant rate; and

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

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

9
10 WHEREAS, feral pigs prey on a variety of wildlife and plant
11 communities, disturbing nest sites and plant assemblages,
12 hybridizing with other endangered suidae, competing with native
13 fauna, and acting as vectors for disease transmission; and

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

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

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

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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
36 that the Department of Agriculture, Department of Land and
37 Natural Resources, Department of Health, the City and County of
38 Honolulu, and the County of Hawaii, are requested to collaborate
39 to establish and implement a five-year pilot program to mitigate
40 and control the significant increase in the population of feral
41 chickens, roosters, and pigs; and



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

