

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 252
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 252, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the importation of any item or material infested or infected with an insect or other animal, disease, or other pest is prohibited;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to inspect any item imported or moved into the State from another part of the continental United States or between the Hawaiian Islands;
- (3) Prohibit the sale of merchandise that a seller knows is infested or infected with a pest;
- (4) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to compel the quarantine, treatment, or destruction of certain materials; and
- (5) Clarify penalties for violations.



Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawai'i Forest Industry Association, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Maui Chamber of Commerce, and three individuals.

Your Committees find that the State's agricultural industry and natural environment face constant threats from invasive species. Pests such as the coffee berry borer, coconut rhinoceros beetle, little fire ant, and two-lined spittlebug have caused severe economic damage to local farms, increased production costs, and disrupted ecosystems. This measure will strengthen the State's biosecurity measures to protect the State's food security, economy, and native biodiversity from invasive pests.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of April 23, 2057, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 252, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 252, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Judiciary and
Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No. * <i>SB 252 501</i>	Committee Referral: <i>AEN/CPN, JDC/WAM</i>	Date: <i>2-26-2025</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	<i>13</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes