THE SENATE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025 STATE OF HAWAII S.R. NO. 25

MAR 0 6 2025

## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING EACH COUNTY TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN BIOSECURITY PLAN THAT PRIORITIZES THE NEEDS OF THE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the impacts of invasive species on the State have 1 been severe, harmful, and costly, leading to habitat 2 degradation, extinction of native species, and rising costs in 3 agriculture and livestock production; and 4 5 WHEREAS, the State has recognized the importance of 6 biosecurity as a critical strategy to prevent the introduction 7 and spread of invasive species, which threaten local ecosystems, 8 food security, and public health; and 9 10 WHEREAS, each county faces unique biosecurity challenges 11 due to differences in climate, land use, agriculture, and 12 transportation infrastructure, necessitating localized 13 approaches to biosecurity planning and response; and 14 15 WHEREAS, strengthening biosecurity at the county level will 16 enable proactive identification of risks, enhance early 17 detection and rapid response efforts, and improve coordination 18 with state and federal agencies; and 19 20 WHEREAS, additionally, establishing county-level 21 biosecurity plans will allow each county to prioritize its 22 biosecurity needs and develop community-based strategies for 23 invasive species mitigation; now, therefore, 24 25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third 26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, 27 that each county is encouraged to establish its own biosecurity 28 plan that prioritizes the needs of the county; and 29 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that because biosecurity efforts are 31 an ongoing effort statewide, each county is encouraged to 32

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collaborate with other counties in developing its biosecurity 1 2 plan; and 3 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is encouraged to share its findings and biosecurity plan and collaborate with the 5 6 State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii 7 Invasive Species Council; and 8 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of 10 Agriculture; Co-Chairpersons of the Hawaii Invasive Species 11 Council; and Mayors and Council Chairs of the City and County of 12 Honolulu and Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui. 13 14 (min Jullan 15 16

OFFERED BY:

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