

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1203

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

June 5, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 5, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 2207, H.D. 2, S.D. 2,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.
ACT 103

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the coconut
2 rhinoceros beetle can have devastating impacts on palm species
3 that are foundational to the State's agricultural economy,
4 cultural heritage, and ecosystems. The use of fine mesh nets
5 can be an effective means of preventing adult coconut rhinoceros
6 beetles from accessing vulnerable plants, effectively mitigating
7 their impact on local plants and the environment.

8 The legislature further finds that even though Act 184,
9 Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, authorizes the department of
10 agriculture and biosecurity to adopt rules for the use of banned
11 monofilament netting, such power is only extended for bird
12 keeping. The legislature is concerned that, due to this
13 limiting authority, the ability of the department to adopt rules
14 to allow for the sale of monofilament netting for coconut
15 rhinoceros beetle interdiction may be thwarted.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:



1 (1) Allow for the use of monofilament netting for purposes
2 of protecting plants against invasive species under
3 certain conditions; and

4 (2) Require the department of agriculture and biosecurity
5 to establish rules allowing the sale and distribution
6 of fine mesh nets, including certain monofilament
7 netting, in the State to protect plants from the
8 coconut rhinoceros beetle.

9 SECTION 2. Section 141-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **"§141-17 Fine [~~meshed~~] mesh nets; invasive species;**
12 **permissible; rules.** (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the
13 contrary, fine [~~meshed~~] mesh nets, including monofilament
14 netting of an appropriate mesh size, may be used for the
15 protection of plants against invasive species, as determined by
16 the department of agriculture and biosecurity; provided that the
17 fine [~~meshed~~] mesh nets shall be applied in a manner that is
18 unlikely to entangle birds, become dislodged and enter water, or
19 entangle or disturb native and beneficial animals, including but
20 not limited to pollinators, ladybugs or lady beetles, and
21 net-winged insects.



1 (b) The department of agriculture and biosecurity shall
2 adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91 to implement this
3 section, including but not limited to establishing requirements
4 related to filament diameter, color, and the inclusion of visual
5 cues to prevent non-targeted entanglement [~~and~~]; prohibiting the
6 use of mist net material [~~that is used~~] designed for bird
7 work[-]; and allowing the distribution and sale of fine mesh
8 nets, including monofilament netting of an appropriate mesh
9 size, for the sole purpose of protecting plants from the coconut
10 rhinoceros beetle (Oryctes rhinoceros)."

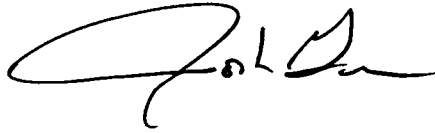
11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



H.B. NO. 2207
H.D. 2
S.D. 2
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 5th day of June, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. L. Ige', written in a cursive style.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 2207, HD 2, SD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives


THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate