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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii invasive  
2 species council was established in 2003 to provide policy level  
3 direction, coordination, and planning among federal agencies,  
4 state departments, and international and local initiatives for  
5 the control and eradication of harmful invasive species  
6 infestations throughout the State and to prevent the  
7 introduction of other potentially harmful invasive species.  
8 However, the initiatives of the Hawaii invasive species council  
9 remain underfunded.

10           The legislature further finds that invasive species are the  
11 single greatest threat to the State's economy, natural  
12 environment, food security, and local communities. Additional  
13 funding for the Hawaii invasive species council would assist in  
14 the establishment of species-specific response teams on each  
15 island and increase the capacity of on-the-ground response  
16 efforts for high-impact pests like little fire ants, coqui



1 frogs, and coconut rhinoceros beetles that continue to spread  
2 throughout the State.

3 The legislature also finds that, with adequate funding,  
4 Maui has drastically reduced and nearly eradicated a little fire  
5 ant infestation that encompassed one hundred forty-two acres by  
6 utilizing innovative new control tools and techniques.  
7 Additional funding for the Hawaii invasive species council would  
8 also support research projects at the university of Hawaii and  
9 other research institutions to continue to develop new tools and  
10 technology for invasive species detection, prevention, and  
11 management.

12 To align with the special purpose of the Hawaii invasive  
13 species council, a portion of the additional funding should also  
14 be reserved to support rapid response efforts to new pest  
15 incursions.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
17 funds to the Hawaii invasive species council to support its  
18 initiatives to control and eradicate invasive species in the  
19 State.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
2 the Hawaii invasive species council to support its initiatives  
3 to control and eradicate invasive species in the State.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Department of  
5 Land and Natural Resources for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to support its initiatives to control and eradicate invasive species in the State. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

