
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO HIRE
A PART-TIME PEST INSPECTION TECHNICIAN FOR THE ISLAND OF
MOLOKAI TO ERADICATE AND CONTROL INVASIVE SPECIES ON THE
ISLAND.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii enjoys a uniqueness and environmental
2 quality unmatched in the rest of the world that is due, in part,
3 to its isolation from continental land masses and its
4 topographic and climatic diversity; and
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6 WHEREAS, over time, this isolation has led to the
7 generation of species entirely unique to Hawaii that are no
8 match for invasive species transported to Hawaii by the
9 advancement of human activities and global commerce and travel;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, more than five thousand species of non-native
13 plants and animals have become established in the Hawaiian
14 islands in the past two hundred years, which represents the
15 successful colonization of a new species in Hawaii every
16 eighteen days; and
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18 WHEREAS, the introduction of invasive species to Hawaii has
19 resulted in the extinction of native species, the destruction of
20 native forests, and crop losses estimated in the millions of
21 dollars; and
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23 WHEREAS, resources to exterminate and control invasive
24 species have been concentrated in the more populated areas in
25 the State, even though the invasive species problem is statewide
26 and pervades smaller communities and islands as well; and
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28 WHEREAS, the island of Molokai has seen the proliferation
29 of certain invasive species on that island, including the
30 fountain grass, the cat's claw shrub, the goarse shrub, the
31 erythrina gall wasp, and the pampas grass; and
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1 WHEREAS, although not on the island yet, certain invasive
2 species have the capability of gaining a foothold on Molokai,
3 including the miconia plant, the Asian clam, the coqui frog, and
4 the brown tree snake; and

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6 WHEREAS, a part-time pest inspection technician on Molokai
7 would provide "first line of defense" capabilities and would be
8 able to inspect all incoming goods to detect organisms ranging
9 from microscopic organisms (plant pathogens, etc.) to large
10 plants and animals; and

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12 WHEREAS, a pest inspection technician would be able to
13 check all goods at ports of entry (harbors and airports) as well
14 as inspect nurseries and special events (outrigger canoe channel
15 races, etc.); and

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17 WHEREAS, a pest inspection technician would also:

- 18
19 (1) Help coordinate and facilitate the rapid response of
20 newly detected injurious wildlife, noxious weeds, and
21 agricultural/aquacultural pests;
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23 (2) Help report and monitor response efforts;
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25 (3) Prevent invasive species on Molokai from being
26 transported to other islands;
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28 (4) Collaborate with other resource agencies to assist
29 with the prevention, survey/detection, and control of
30 new invasive species and established noxious invasive
31 species;
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33 (5) Conduct public awareness campaigns and workshops to
34 empower the Molokai community to identify priority
35 invasive species, notify proper authorities, and
36 assist with eradication efforts;
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38 (6) Enforce violators and certify outgoing foods with
39 "passed" stickers; and
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41 (7) Coordinate pesticide education, certification, and
42 inspection; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 3 of 2006, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is
 4 requested to hire a part-time pest inspection technician for the
 5 island of Molokai to eradicate and control invasive species on
 6 the island; and

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 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 9 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 10 Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY: Mele Carroll

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