

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2263
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and
Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 2263 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of
Agriculture to charge and collect fees for invasive species
inspection, quarantine, and eradication services from any person
who imports articles or "means of conveyance" into the State.

"Means of conveyance" means any personal property used for or
intended for use for the movement of any other personal property
that could harbor an invasive species.

Your Committees find that the invasion of the State by
invasive species seriously threatens Hawaii's economy and natural
environment. Invasive species cause millions of dollars in crop
losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of
native forests, and the spread of disease. The cost, however, to
properly and adequately control or eradicate these unwanted pests
and plants is substantial.

This bill addresses the high cost of fighting invasive
species by providing a dedicated source of funding and a state
treasury fund to support the fight against invasive species. Your
Committees note that the bill also assesses fees only on those

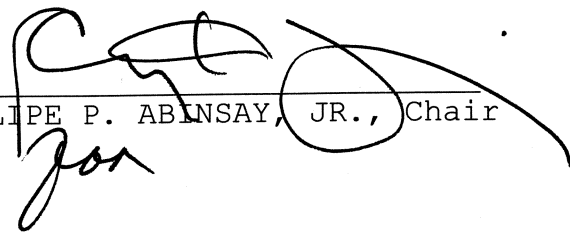


persons that may be introducing unwanted pests and plants into the State.

Your Committees have amended the bill by providing a definition of "invasive species" and by making technical amendments for purposes of style and clarity.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2263, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2263, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture,


FELIPE P. ABINSAY, JR., Chair


HERMINA MORITA, Chair



