

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE
MOLUCCA ALBIZIA TREE.

1 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia was first introduced to Hawaii
2 in 1917 as an ornamental tree and for the purposes of
3 reforestation; and
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5 WHEREAS, at one time, the United States Forest Service
6 planted 135,000 molucca albizia seeds on Kauai, Oahu, Molokai,
7 Lanai, and Hawaii for the production of lumber; and
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9 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia tree was last studied by the
10 Harold L. Lyon Arboretum in 1985 for the potential risks caused
11 by the spreading and aging of molucca albizia trees; and
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13 WHEREAS, molucca albizia is one of the fastest growing
14 species among the broad-leaf tree species and has a life span of
15 twenty-five to thirty years; and
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17 WHEREAS, today, the molucca albizia is present statewide,
18 as it has adapted to the semi-moist areas below 1,500 feet in
19 elevation; and
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21 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia has a large crown and can
22 reach more than one hundred feet in height; and
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24 WHEREAS, the molucca albizia has a soft and brittle wood,
25 has a shallow root system in poor soil, and its large branches
26 are often susceptible to breaking in high wind; and
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28 WHEREAS, these factors pose a significant hazard to people
29 and property in various residential and recreational areas,
30 including the Manoa Falls trail; and
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32 WHEREAS, there is increasing public concern about the risk
33 to people and property presented by the spread of the molucca
34 albizia tree in the State; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
3 that the University of Hawaii is requested to conduct a study on
4 the molucca albizia tree, including a field inventory of these
5 trees in at least the Ala Wai watershed area; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of its study, the
8 University of Hawaii is requested to prepare recommendations on
9 whether it is feasible to eradicate the molucca albizia, and if
10 so, a method of how to eradicate this species of tree; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is
13 also requested to identify the necessary components of an
14 eradication pilot project to be performed in Manoa Valley, Oahu;
15 and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is
18 requested to report its findings and recommendations to the
19 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the 2008 Regular
20 Session; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Regional Manager of the United
24 States Forest Service, the Chair of the Board of Regents of the
25 University of Hawaii, the President of the University of Hawaii,
26 the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the Chair
27 of Land and Natural Resources, the Chair of the Board of
28 Agriculture, and the Director of the Lyon Arboretum.
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OFFERED BY:

