
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE CURRENT LAWS, RULES, AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE REGARDING HIGH RISK PLANTS REQUIRING INTERVENTION.

1 WHEREAS, one of the major threats to Hawaii's agricultural,
2 horticultural, aquacultural, and livestock industries, forest and
3 recreational areas, and conservation districts of the State is
4 invasive plants; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture identifies and
7 regulates these threats by maintaining a restricted plants list;
8 and

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10 WHEREAS, the restricted plants list has not been changed
11 since its inception due to the time-consuming, costly, and
12 cumbersome process of rulemaking required to get plants on or off
13 the list; and

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15 WHEREAS, Hawaii, which allows importation of plants except
16 those on the restricted plant list, needs a process by which
17 to quickly intervene when high-threat plants are identified, as
18 determined by a risk assessment based on the benefit versus the
19 invasive potential; and

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21 WHEREAS, allowing a streamlined process for adding to and
22 removing from the restricted plant list or lists will add a
23 necessary tool to effectively and efficiently manage any serious
24 threat in a timely manner; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2011, that the Department of Agriculture, in
29 cooperation with the University of Hawaii College of
30 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, is requested to
31 convene a working group to evaluate the current laws, rules,



1 and standards of practice regarding high risk plants
2 requiring intervention; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that the
5 working group be composed of the following members:
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7 (1) A representative from the Department of Agriculture;
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9 (2) A representative from the Department of Land and
10 Natural Resources;
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12 (3) A representative from:
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14 (A) The University of Hawaii College of Tropical
15 Agriculture and Human Resources;
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17 (B) The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species;
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19 (C) The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii Chapter;
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21 (D) The Conservation Council for Hawaii;
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23 (E) The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;
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25 (F) The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii;
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27 (G) The horticulture industry;
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29 (H) The aquaculture industry; and
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31 (I) The livestock industry;
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33 and
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35 (4) One member each appointed by the President of the
36 Senate and the Speaker of the House of
37 Representatives;
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39 and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that the
42 members appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker
43 of the House of Representatives shall serve as co-chairs; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that the
2 working group:

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- 4 (1) Evaluate the current regulations, rules, and standards
5 of practice regarding the adding and removing of items
6 from the restricted plant list;
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- 8 (2) Determine a more effective and efficient process for
9 adding or removing plants to or from the restricted
10 plants list to supplement the existing rulemaking
11 process, including the risk evaluation and assessment
12 of the benefit versus the invasive potential of new and
13 existing plants;
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- 15 (3) Recommend a process by which the Board of Agriculture, a
16 board member, government agency, or industry or
17 conservation experts may recommend the designation of a
18 plant species as a restricted plant, including data
19 type and collection sufficiency;
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- 21 (4) Discuss whether there is a need for multiple restricted
22 plant lists, based on risk or threat assessments,
23 geographical criteria, specific purposes or conditions
24 or other relevant categories; and
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- 26 (5) Investigate any other relevant issues pertaining to
27 restricted plants as determined by the working group;
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29 and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species
32 Council and Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species are
33 requested to:

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- 35 (1) Communicate and collaborate with their individual
36 island members regarding the work and progress of this
37 working group; and
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- 39 (2) Transmit a draft of their proposed findings,
40 recommendations, and proposed legislation to the
41 Legislative Reference Bureau no later than November 1,
42 2012;
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44 and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau
2 is requested to submit a report of the working group's findings
3 and recommendations, including problems with existing statutes or
4 administrative rules and any proposed legislation, to the
5 Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the
6 Regular Session of 2013; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working group
9 are requested to serve without compensation and without
10 reimbursement for expenses; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chairperson of the
14 Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of the Board of Land and
15 Natural Resources; members of the Hawaii Invasive Species
16 Council; Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical
17 Agriculture and Human Resources; Coordinating Group on Alien
18 Pest Species; The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii Chapter; Executive
19 Director, Conservation Council for Hawaii; Hawaii Farm Bureau
20 Federation; President of the Landscape Industry Council of
21 Hawaii; and Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

