
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has a vibrant
2 coffee industry with over six thousand three hundred acres of
3 coffee harvested statewide resulting in the production of over
4 eight million pounds of green beans in 2010. Unfortunately, one
5 of the most devastating coffee pests, a tiny brownish-colored
6 beetle a little smaller than the size of a sesame seed known as
7 the coffee berry borer (*Hypothenemus hampei*), has been found in
8 Hawaii. The coffee berry borer is native to Central Africa and
9 is also found in many coffee-growing regions of the world,
10 including Central and South America. The beetle bores into the
11 coffee cherry to lay its eggs and the larvae feed on the coffee
12 bean, reducing the yield and quality of the bean. Because the
13 larvae are inside the bean, the pest is difficult to control
14 with pesticides.

15 Although exact dollar amounts are not known, coffee berry
16 borer researchers estimate the damage caused by the coffee berry
17 borer worldwide to be about \$500,000,000 per year in an industry
18 worth \$90,000,000,000 per year.



1 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force within
2 the department of agriculture to draft and coordinate a plan to
3 control the coffee berry borer in Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department
5 of agriculture, the coffee berry borer task force that shall
6 draft and coordinate plans for the control of the coffee berry
7 borer.

8 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

- 9 (1) The director of the department of agriculture, or the
10 director's designee, to serve as chair;
- 11 (2) The dean and director of the college of tropical
12 agriculture and human resources of the University of
13 Hawaii, or a designee of the dean and director;
- 14 (3) A representative from the United States Department of
15 Agriculture's Pacific Basin Agricultural Research
16 Center in Hilo;
- 17 (4) A representative from the cooperative extension
18 service of the college of tropical agriculture and
19 human resources of the University of Hawaii;
- 20 (5) A representative from the county of Hawaii department
21 of research and development; and



1 (6) Representatives from various agricultural
2 organizations and interests within the coffee
3 industry.

4 (c) Members of the task force shall serve without
5 compensation, and all necessary expenses, including travel
6 expenses, shall be paid by the agency, organization, or
7 department to which the member belongs. No member shall be made
8 subject to chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because
9 of that member's participation as a member of the task force.

10 (d) The task force:

11 (1) Shall advise the department of agriculture on the
12 provision of private grants, contracts, and
13 cooperative agreements to promote education and
14 management;

15 (2) May adopt resolutions encompassing any issue
16 considered by the task force and forward these
17 resolutions to any federal, state, or county agency
18 for appropriate action;

19 (3) Shall meet at a place and time to be determined by the
20 chair of the task force with meeting notices being
21 posted by the task force as required under chapter 92,
22 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and



1 (4) Shall accept public testimony at meetings held by the
2 task force.

3 (e) The department of agriculture shall provide
4 administrative support, including the recording of minutes, to
5 the task force.

6 (f) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
7 and recommendations, including any measures and strategies to
8 mitigate the effects of the coffee berry borer and any proposed
9 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
10 to the convening of the regular session of 2013 and shall cease
11 to exist on May 1, 2013.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the
15 department of agriculture to:

16 (1) Fund investigative research into practical techniques
17 suited to Hawaii to combat the effects of coffee berry
18 borer; and

19 (2) Implement a comprehensive educational program to
20 increase independent farmer understanding of the
21 coffee berry borer and to increase farmer



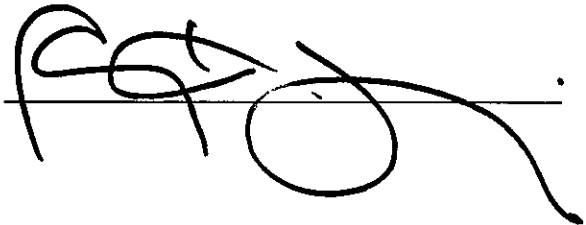
1 participation in management strategies to minimize the
2 impact of unmanaged and feral coffee.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 25 2012



H.B. NO. 2833

Report Title:

Agriculture; Coffee Berry Borer; Task Force; Appropriation

Description:

Creates a task force within the Department of Agriculture to draft and coordinate plans for the control of the coffee berry borer. Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for investigative research and educational programs. Effective July 1, 2012.

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

