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## S.C.R. NO. **74**

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADD THE ALBIZIA TREE TO ITS NOXIOUS WEED LIST AND URGING THE INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY PLAN FOR THE CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF ALBIZIA ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the Falcataria moluccana, commonly known as the Albizia tree, is native to the South Pacific and was introduced to Hawaii in 1917; and

WHEREAS, Albizia is a fast growing tree with shallow roots, brittle wood, and a weak structure; and

WHEREAS, Albizia's rapid growth rate and soil-altering roots and foliage pose a threat to lowland native forests, falling Albizia trees and branches pose a safety hazard to homeowners and motorists, and Albizia trees have damaged overhead and underground utilities; and

WHEREAS, Albizia has proliferated on the island of Hawaii to the point where it has become a significant problem; and

WHEREAS, the Big Island Invasive Species Committee, a voluntary partnership of private citizens, community organizations, businesses, land owners, and government agencies, has attempted to control and eradicate Albizia but has experienced difficulty doing so because of the extent of Albizia's proliferation on public and private lands and because the Big Island Invasive Species Committee is significantly underfunded at the policy level; and

WHEREAS, policy-level direction, coordination, and planning are needed to properly control and eradicate Albizia on the island of Hawaii; now, therefore,

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15 16 17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Agriculture is urged to designate the Albizia as a noxious weed pursuant to section 152-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Invasive Species Council is urged to develop and implement a comprehensive interagency plan for the control and eradication of Albizia on the island of Hawaii pursuant to chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and the Invasive Species Council.

OFFERED BY:

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