

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
AGRICULTURE**

**Thursday, March 27, 2014  
11:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 86, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
REQUESTING THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL TO PROVIDE  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE INPUT  
REGARDING THE CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF INVASIVE ALBIZIA TREES.**

House Concurrent Resolution 86, House Draft 1 requests that the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) provide opportunities for various stakeholders to provide input regarding the control of albizia (*Falcataria moluccana*) in Hawai'i. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department administratively hosts HISC as mandated by Chapter 194, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (hrs). The HISC recognizes the impacts of albizia on Hawai'i's ecosystems and people. The HISC in 2011 adopted Resolution 11-2, "Regarding Albizia," supporting the listing albizia as a HISC-designated invasive species through an administrative rule process. HISC also adopted Resolution 11-1, "Requesting the Promulgation of Administrative Rules for the Implementation of HRS 194," in which HISC directed staff to draft administrative rules, including the process by which species might be officially designated or listed as "invasive species" by HISC. This process is currently underway. Once completed, albizia will be officially recognized as a HISC-designated invasive species. This process will be done at public meetings and will allow for public input.

In 2013, HISC funded a proposal from the University of Hawai'i Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit (UH PCSU) for a stakeholder-led albizia control demonstration project in the Puna district on Hawai'i Island. This project is underway and is scheduled to be completed by December 2014. This project will provide data on methodologies and costs for control of albizia trees both in forest areas and in suburban and urban environments. HISC also funded a statewide Invasive Species Council Planner position beginning in 2013 to coordinate a HISC Strategic Plan as well as assist with species-specific plans. This position will assist with the UH PCSU project in

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AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

recommending control strategies for albizia and will incorporate stakeholder input into recommendations.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

**onishi2-Micah-Seth**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2014 2:41 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** nwong@99imperial.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR86 on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM

**HCR86**

Submitted on: 3/25/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Napualani Wong	Kakilepo, LLC	Support	No

Comments: Please allow as many individuals or organizations as possible to provide input. I manage the visitor amenities at the Manoa Falls Trail in Manoa, O'ahu, and the albizia trees are as terrifying as they are beautiful. I truly believe it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed. In addition, as we prepare areas for replanting with native species, the opportunistic seeds of the albizia trees flourish. The danger to nearby homes in Manoa is also frightening. Please support this very important legislation so we can collectively start to take meaningful action to manage this invasive and potentially deadly species.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**onishi2-Micah-Seth**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2014 12:52 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** mauibrad@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR86 on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM

**HCR86**

Submitted on: 3/25/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brad Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: FYI: There is a new power plant on Kauai that intends to use burning of albizia trees for power production. They have a PPA with KIUC.

<http://greenenergyhawaii.com/files/Green%20Energy%20Orientation.pdf>

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**onishi2-Micah-Seth**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2014 3:44 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** clivechi3@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR86 on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM  
**Attachments:** IMG\_2015 copy.JPG

**HCR86**

Submitted on: 3/25/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 27, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clive Cheetham	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Albezzia is very useful in Regenerative Agriculture for building naturally fertile soil on land previously farmed using chemical fertilizer and pesticides. Albizzia makes excellent lumber when the trees are over 3 feet diameter. As you can see from the attached photo from my shop in Puna, these trees are perfect for making dug-out canoes. People need to be encouraged to eliminate unwanted trees when they are small or to continually harvest sticks for mulch and animal feed about once per year.

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