

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

KEN H. KAKESAKO
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**MONDAY MARCH 17, 2014
9:00 A.M.
ROOM 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.**

Chairperson Wooley and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2343. This bill will provide funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), for the protection of Hawaii's environment and economy and the health and lifestyle of its people through the support of invasive species prevention, control, research, outreach, and planning.

Hawaii faces many invasive species threats across the islands, including the little fire ant, coffee berry borer, and the coconut rhinoceros beetle. HISC provides policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state, federal, and international agencies for the control and eradication of such invasive species. HISC is an essential component to combat invasive species in Hawaii.

HDOA supports this measure, but defers to HISC as to how the proposed funding would be allocated.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



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

Monday, March 17, 2014
9:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION,
CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

Senate Bill 2343 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) to support strategic, statewide invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning projects. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

As an island state, Hawaii faces a broad array of invasive species problems, including stinging fire ants, rapidly growing invasive plants that alter watershed forest composition and function, marine algae that smother our coral reefs, and mosquitoes that may carry deadly diseases. Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's environment, agriculture and economy, and to the health and way of life of Hawaii's people.

The HISC is administratively housed at the Department. The Executive Budget request currently includes \$1,000,000 in supplemental funds for the HISC, to be added to \$750,000 that was previously appropriated for Fiscal Year (FY) 15 at the start of this biennium. With recent discoveries of new invasive species infestations, the Governor and the Department are now supporting the \$5,000,000 supplemental appropriation proposed in the joint priority package. This is the amount calculated by HISC support staff to maintain project capacity and function in FY15. The Department supports this additional appropriation measure, provided that this appropriation does not replace or adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the joint priority package or the Executive Budget request.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

JESSE K. SOUKI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 17, 2014
9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 312

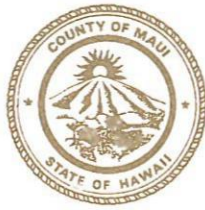
S.B.2343
**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING**

House Committee on Agriculture

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2343, and its proposed funding of an interagency response to the threats posed by invasive species. Hawaii's location and environment encourages the introduction of harmful species and requires a multidisciplinary, coordinated effort, such as that provided by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to manage this threat.

We appreciate this opportunity to submit this testimony.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793-2155
Telephone (808) 270-7855
Fax (808) 270-7870
e-mail: mayors.office@mauicounty.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia

COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

TESTIMONY OF ALAN ARAKAWA, MAYOR COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Monday, March 17, 2014, 9:00 a.m., Conference Rm. 312

SENATE BILL 2343

RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

The Honorable Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Honorable Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair
And Members of the House Committee on Agriculture

Thank you for this opportunity to testify **IN SUPPORT** of **SB 2343**. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, and planning.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

- The appropriation of funds for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is important as invasive species can cause the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, spread of disease, and millions of dollars in crop losses.
- This measure will help address our ongoing efforts to deal with invasive species such as miconia, coqui frogs, axis deer, and most recently – the little fire ant. The invasive stinging fire ant was recently confirmed to have made its way from Hawaii Island to Oahu and Maui. If not quickly dealt with, these invasive species will do irreparable harm to our economy and human health, and essentially create an environmental crisis.
- Funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council will ensure statewide coordinated and timely efforts to efficiently combat invasive species.
- While the taxpayers of Maui County have invested millions of dollars in combating invasive species over the years – more needs to be done. The importance of this matter is recognized in the Countywide Policy Plan that provides the following objective: "Expand coordination with the State and nonprofit agencies and their volunteers to reduce invasive species, replant indigenous species, and identify critical habitat."

For these reasons, I support of SB 2343.

Council Chair
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Michael P. Victorino

Council Members
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
Stacy Crivello
Don S. Guzman
G. Riki Hokama
Mike White

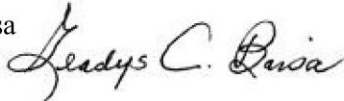


Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.maucounty.gov/council

March 14, 2014

TO: The Honorable Jessica Wooley, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Gladys C. Baisa
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 17, 2014; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2343,
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

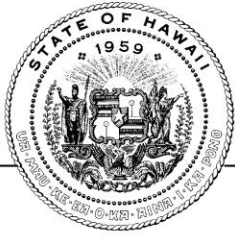
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of** this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Invasive species cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, and the spread of disease. Stopping the influx of new pests and containing their spread is essential to Hawaii's natural environment, economy, and agriculture.
2. Funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council will ensure statewide coordinated and timely efforts are made to most efficiently combat invasive species, such as the little fire ant, the coffee berry borer, and the brown tree snake.
3. County of Maui taxpayers have invested millions of dollars in fighting invasive species over the years through supporting the Maui Invasive Species Committee's work and other watershed-protection initiatives. With increased support from the State, we can - and we must - do so much more. Indeed, the Countywide Policy Plan identifies the following objective: "Expand coordination with the State and nonprofit agencies and their volunteers to reduce invasive species, replant indigenous species, and identify critical habitat."

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
ACTING DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of the
OFFICE OF PLANNING
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Monday, March 17, 2014
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
SB 2343
**RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES
PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.**

Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture.

On behalf of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), the Office of Planning (OP) serves as a voting member of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC). HISC is a State interdepartmental collaboration created to provide policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful. OP supports SB2343 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our Executive Budget.

OP administers HRS Chapter 205A, the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law under which one of its tasks is the preparation and update of the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP), a statewide, multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional plan to achieve comprehensive and

integrated ocean and coastal resources management. The 2013 update of the ORMP has identified two (2) marine resource goals to:

1. Minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species from bays where there is coral or water quality degradation.
2. Minimize the likelihood of aquatic invasive species introductions and spread into and within Hawaii from sources associated with vessels.

OP supports the efforts of HISC to address goals for the reduction and management of invasive aquatic species to protect the threat of negative impacts to Hawaii's critical ocean and coastal ecosystems.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Council Chair
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Council Members
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
Stacy Crivello
Don S. Guzman
G. Riki Hokama
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Mike White



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
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WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/council

March 14, 2014

TO: Honorable Jessica Wooley, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Robert Carroll
Council Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2014

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 2343, RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR
INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH AND
PLANNING**

I support SB 2343 for the reasons cited in testimony submitted by the Maui County Council Chair, and urge you to support this measure.

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 3:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stacy.crivello@mauicounty.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2343 on Mar 17, 2014 09:00AM

SB2343

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 17, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Councilmember Stacy Helm Crivello	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the measure and the testimony submitted by Maui County Council Chair Gladys Baisa for the reasons stated in her testimony. Thank you.

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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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 17, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON SB 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

Room 312
9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Wooley, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of SB 2343 which appropriates funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.

Invasive species have become one of the most devastating problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture suffers when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, fireweed, coffee berry borer, macadamia felted coccid, little fire ant, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle and varoa mite, to name a few. Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk. This is not consistent with the State's goal of increasing self sufficiency and sustainability.

Proper funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species is critical for protection of Hawaii's environment and economy and the health and lifestyle of its people through the support of invasive species prevention, control, research, outreach, and planning.

While we do support HISC and its mission, we are opposed to making HISC the entity under which all invasive species control and eradication efforts fall. Public/private partnerships, research and enhanced inspections all play critical roles when managing a most important category of threats to Hawaii's agriculture. Individual bills that relate to specific pests affecting crops should be judged on their own merits.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2343 Making an Appropriation for Invasive Species
Prevention, Control, Outreach, Research, and Planning
House Committee on Agriculture
Monday, March 17, 2014, 9:00AM, Room 312

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 2343 and its proposed funding for the invasive species programs of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. Indeed, the colonization rate of introduced insects and mites in Hawai'i has been estimated at 500 times the rate of the continental United States.

The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) provides a comprehensive, statewide approach to invasive species policy and funding including prevention, early detection, control, research and education programs. This effort necessarily results in important coordination, collaboration, and prioritization amongst government agencies and partners based on a variety of issues including human health, safety and well-being, economic and agricultural harm, and the threat to the health and function of the natural environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this critical funding measure.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 2:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2343 on Mar 17, 2014 09:00AM*

SB2343

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for AGR on Mar 17, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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