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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO MANAGE ALBIZIA TREES ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that albizia trees are an  
2     invasive species that present an increasingly costly threat to  
3     the economy, critical infrastructure, and public safety on the  
4     island of Hawaii. These trees proliferate in many areas of the  
5     State, but are an especially worrisome hazard in East Hawaii,  
6     where they grow in areas critical to public safety, including  
7     along tsunami evacuation routes and near the region's only  
8     critical care hospital. Further, albizia trees are more likely  
9     than many species of comparable size to fall or break in windy  
10    or rainy conditions. In a natural disaster situation, such as a  
11    tsunami or hurricane, fallen albizia trees could put lives at  
12    risk by blocking evacuation routes or impeding access to  
13    emergency care facilities. The legislature finds that the  
14    location and density of albizia trees in East Hawaii, along with  
15    their propensity to fall or break in inclement conditions make  
16    albizia trees a significant threat to the public safety.



1 Through a recent demonstration program, the Big Island  
2 invasive species committee demonstrated the effectiveness and  
3 necessity of a coordinated approach to controlling the growth  
4 and spread of albizia trees. It is the intent of the  
5 legislature that the department of land and natural resources  
6 continue these efforts and, in partnership with the state  
7 department of defense, act to secure additional resources for  
8 albizia tree removal to mitigate the public safety hazard caused  
9 by the presence of these trees along tsunami evacuation routes  
10 on Hawaii island.

11 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
12 department of land and natural resources for the control of  
13 albizia trees along tsunami evacuation routes on the island of  
14 Hawaii.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for  
18 the immediate, coordinated management of albizia trees that  
19 threaten access to and safe passage along tsunami evacuation  
20 routes on the island of Hawaii.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
22 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.



1           SECTION 3. The department of land and natural resources  
2 and the Hawaii department of defense shall work in partnership  
3 to secure additional funding and resources for albizia tree  
4 removal to mitigate the public safety hazard caused by the  
5 presence of these trees along tsunami evacuation routes on  
6 Hawaii island in accordance with the purposes of this Act.

7           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; Appropriation; Albizia

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the management of albizia trees along tsunami evacuation routes on Hawaii Island. Directs the Department to work with the state Department of Defense to secure additional resources. Effective July 1, 2020. (HB1769 HD1)

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

