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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the unchecked spread  
2 of invasive species is one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's  
3 economy, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of  
4 its people. Invasive pests can cause millions of dollars in  
5 crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction  
6 of native forests, the spread of disease, and the quarantine of  
7 exported agricultural crops.

8           Island ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the  
9 destructive power of invasive pests. On Guam, the accidental  
10 introduction of the brown tree snake has resulted in widespread  
11 devastation. Without natural predators or competition for food,  
12 brown tree snake populations have grown exponentially, causing  
13 mass extinctions of endemic birds. Where there were once bird  
14 songs, the silent forests of Guam are now home to as many as  
15 fifteen thousand snakes per square mile. The introduction of a  
16 single new pest like the brown tree snake could forever change  
17 the character of the Hawaiian Islands.



1           Despite ongoing efforts to detect and eradicate invasive  
2 species, our fragile island ecosystems are constantly at risk  
3 from invasive insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds,  
4 and other pests. To date, the coqui frog, kariba weed, miconia  
5 plant, ohia rust pathogen, nettle caterpillar, and little fire  
6 ant have all found their way to Hawaii, disrupting the delicate  
7 balance of our ecosystems, crowding out native species, and  
8 reducing the biodiversity of our islands.

9           Ports of entry are the gateways through which new invasive  
10 pests make their way to the islands. As a result, it is vital  
11 that our airports and harbors are prepared with the resources,  
12 facilities, and infrastructure to properly prevent the  
13 introduction of any new invasive species to our island home.

14           The purpose of this Act is to provide support to the  
15 airports and harbors in the State for the infrastructure and  
16 facilities necessary to prevent the introduction of new invasive  
17 species to Hawaii.

18           SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
19 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$                    or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year  
21 2014-2015 for the planning, design, and construction of



1 biosecurity facilities at harbors and airports throughout the  
2 State.

3 SECTION 3. The appropriation made for the planning,  
4 design, and construction of biosecurity facilities authorized in  
5 this Act shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which  
6 the appropriation is made; provided that all moneys that are  
7 unencumbered as of June 30, 2016, shall lapse as of that date.

8 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated in section 2 of this Act  
9 shall be expended by the department of agriculture for the  
10 purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Biosecurity Facilities; Invasive Species; General Obligation Bonds; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for the planning, design, and construction of biosecurity facilities at harbors and airports throughout the State. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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