
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LITTLE FIRE ANT.

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

1 SECTION 1. An invasive species, *Wasmannia auropunctata*,
2 commonly known as the "little fire ant", was first discovered in
3 this State on the island of Hawaii in 1999. The little fire ant
4 has since been found on Kauai, Maui, and Oahu. Little fire ants
5 can invade agricultural areas and nurseries, as well as yards
6 and homes. Little fire ant stings to livestock and pets can
7 cause blindness, and the stings can cause large, painful welts
8 which last for several days. Little fire ants have also been
9 known to kill hatchlings of ground-nesting birds and sea
10 turtles.

11 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
12 creation of a statewide public awareness campaign by the Hawaii
13 invasive species council. The public awareness campaign would
14 assist in the prevention and eradication of little fire ants,
15 with an emphasis on testing and detecting the presence of this
16 invasive species in trees, plants, soil, and mulch.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



H.B. NO. 2431

Report Title:

Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Little Fire Ants;
Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii invasive species council for the creation of a statewide public awareness campaign on the little fire ant.

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