

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO EXTEND THE USE OF OVOCONTROL TO FERAL CHICKENS.

WHEREAS, a concern to residents, visitors, and businesses across the State, feral chickens pose a noise nuisance, are a potential threat to native birds, and cause other destructive and unsanitary problems; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Office of the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services removes more than 150,000 birds each year at taxpayer expense; and

WHEREAS, although current bird control methods, including trapping, shooting, and poisoning, help control the chicken population, these birds are rapid breeders and repopulate very quickly; and

WHEREAS, while poisons pose a threat to the environment and other animals, including pets, contraceptives are a safer, long-term solution for controlling the feral chicken population; and

WHEREAS, Nicarbazin has been proven to be an effective contraceptive for birds, and leading animal welfare groups such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Humane Society of the United States have advocated the use of this contraceptive; and

WHEREAS, OvoControl, a bait containing Nicarbazin, is approved and registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the control of feral pigeons; and

WHEREAS, as a humane, reversible, and nonlethal control method, OvoControl is being used successfully by a number of businesses in Waikiki to abate the feral pigeon population; and

WHEREAS, although it is effective in preventing the hatching of eggs in other bird species, OvoControl is currently only allowed in Hawaii for use on pigeons; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that the Department of Agriculture is requested to extend the use of OvoControl to feral chickens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture is urged to file a Special Local Needs or Section 24(c) registration with the United States Environmental Protection Agency to allow the use of OvoControl for feral chickens within the State of Hawaii; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, Director of Health, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

OFFERED BY:

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