
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL TO PROVIDE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE INPUT
REGARDING THE CONTROL OF INVASIVE ALBIZIA TREES.

1 WHEREAS, trees of the genus *Falcataria*, commonly known as
2 albizia, were first introduced to Hawaii at the turn of the 20th
3 Century; and
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5 WHEREAS, since albizia trees are extremely fast-growing and
6 prolific, these non-native species have become established in
7 Hawaii to the detriment of both native plant species and public
8 safety; and
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10 WHEREAS, because of albizia's rapid growth rate, these
11 trees frequently block sunlight to surrounding plants,
12 effectively starving and killing them; and
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14 WHEREAS, albizia trees are brittle and have weak root
15 systems and, therefore, are more likely to break or fall in
16 windy and rainy conditions than other trees of comparable size;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, the susceptibility of albizia trees to inclement
20 weather conditions combined with a tendency to grow in dense
21 stands make them an especially worrisome hazard in the event of
22 a hurricane or other natural disaster when falling or fallen
23 trees can endanger public safety and impede access routes; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, an
26 interagency collaboration housed within the Department of Land
27 and Natural Resources, and the various island-based Invasive
28 Species Committees funded by the Council are responsible for
29 planning and carrying out invasive species control efforts
30 throughout the State; and
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32 WHEREAS, while albizia trees are present throughout the
33 State, their impact on the public and the environment in any
34 given area differs based on local conditions; and



1 WHEREAS, any control response to albizia must take into
2 account the diverse interests and concerns of the residents of
3 affected areas; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
7 Session of 2014, that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is
8 requested to provide opportunities for various stakeholders to
9 provide input regarding the control of invasive albizia trees
10 through its partnerships with the various island-based Invasive
11 Species Committees; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council is encouraged to
14 solicit participation in this process from individuals as well
15 as from organizations or agencies from both the public and
16 private sectors in areas throughout the State that are affected
17 by invasive albizia; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
21 Land and Natural Resources, Chairperson of the Board of
22 Agriculture, Coordinator of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council,
23 and the respective Chairs of the Big Island, Kauai, Maui,
24 Molokai, and Oahu Invasive Species Committees.

