

JAN 23 2014

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, *Falcataria*
2 *moluccana*, is an invasive species that presents an increasingly
3 costly threat to the economy, critical infrastructure, and
4 public safety on the island of Hawaii. The likelihood of
5 albizia trees falling and the long distances between residential
6 areas and emergency services add significantly to the
7 uncertainty of emergency response capability, resulting in the
8 potential loss of human life following a hurricane. Further,
9 the pre-planned removal of each albizia tree costs significantly
10 less than the combined direct and indirect costs of removal if
11 and when it falls into a road, power line, or building. The
12 Hawaii island invasive species committee has demonstrated the
13 effectiveness and necessity of a coordinated approach to
14 controlling the growth and spread of albizia trees.

15 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the
16 control of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the
4 immediate, coordinated management of albizia trees that threaten
5 access to critical emergency services and transportation routes
6 identified by the Hawaii county civil defense agency for the
7 island of Hawaii, as follows:

8 (1) The funds shall be expended solely for the coordinated
9 management of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii,
10 except that other plants may be incidentally removed
11 in the process. If the project cannot be continued,
12 funds may be transferred to another island invasive
13 species committee to accomplish the same purpose on
14 that island;

15 (2) The majority of work shall be conducted within the
16 heavily impacted district of Puna, albizia trees shall
17 be completely removed from highway rights of way, and
18 albizia trees outside the right of way that are deemed
19 non-hazardous shall be treated and left in place.
20 Trees shall be treated or removed to at least one
21 hundred fifty feet from the road; and



1 (3) Control of albizia trees shall be concentrated in the
2 following areas:

3 (A) The two-mile stretch of highway 132 between Lava
4 Tree state park and Pahoia;

5 (B) Isolated patches of albizia trees between
6 Kalapana and Pahoia;

7 (C) Isolated patches of albizia trees between Pahoia
8 and Keaau; and

9 (D) The hospital corridor, particularly the segment
10 of Waianuenue avenue from Komohana street to
11 Akolea road, the segment of Akolea road from
12 Waianuenue avenue to Kaumana drive, and Puainako
13 street from highway 11 to Kaumana drive.

14 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
15 University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific cooperative studies unit,
16 for use by the Hawaii island invasive species committee for the
17 purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Invasive Species; Appropriation; Albizia

Description:

Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii at Hilo for the Hawaii island invasive species committee for the immediate, coordinated management of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii.

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