

**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
ACTING DIRECTOR
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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Acting Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 25, 2014
9:05 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
HB 1716
**RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES
PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

On behalf of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), the Office of Planning (OP) serves as a voting member of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC). HISC is a State interdepartmental collaboration created to provide policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful. OP supports HB1716 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our Executive Budget.

OP administers HRS Chapter 205A, the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law under which one of its tasks is the preparation and update of the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP), a statewide, multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional plan to achieve comprehensive and

integrated ocean and coastal resources management. The 2013 update of the ORMP has identified two (2) marine resource goals to:

1. Minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species from bays where there is coral or water quality degradation.
2. Minimize the likelihood of aquatic invasive species introductions and spread into and within Hawaii from sources associated with vessels.

OP supports the efforts of HISC to address goals for the reduction and management of invasive aquatic species to protect the threat of negative impacts to Hawaii's critical ocean and coastal ecosystems.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

KEN H. KAKESAKO
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**TUESDAY MARCH 25, 2014
9:05 A.M.
ROOM 211**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1716
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.**

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1716. This bill will provide funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), for the protection of Hawaii's environment and economy and the health and lifestyle of its people through the support of invasive species prevention, control, research, outreach, and planning. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports this measure, but defers to HISC as to how the proposed funding would be allocated.

Hawaii faces many invasive species threats across the islands, including the little fire ant, coffee berry borer, and the coconut rhinoceros beetle. HISC provides policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state, federal, and international agencies for the control and eradication of such invasive species. HISC is an essential component to combat invasive species in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 25, 2014
9:05 AM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1716
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION,
CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

House Bill 1716 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) to support strategic, statewide invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning projects. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

As an island state, Hawaii faces a broad array of invasive species problems, including stinging fire ants, rapidly growing invasive plants that alter watershed forest composition and function, marine algae that smother our coral reefs, and mosquitoes that may carry deadly diseases. Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's environment, agriculture and economy, and to the health and way of life of Hawaii's people.

The HISC is administratively housed at the Department. The Executive Budget request currently includes \$1,000,000 in supplemental funds for the HISC, to be added to \$750,000 that was previously appropriated for Fiscal Year (FY) 15 at the start of this biennium. With recent discoveries of new invasive species infestations, the Governor and the Department are now supporting the \$5,000,000 supplemental appropriation proposed in the joint priority package. This is the amount calculated by HISC support staff to maintain project capacity and function in FY15. The Department supports this additional appropriation measure, provided that this appropriation does not replace or adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Budget request.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

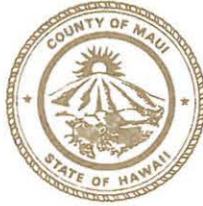
JESSE SOUKI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



ALAN M. ARAKAWA
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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

TESTIMONY OF ALAN ARAKAWA, MAYOR COUNTY OF MAUI



BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 9:05 a.m., Conference Rm. 211

HOUSE BILL 1716

RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

The Honorable Sen. David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Sen. Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thank you for this opportunity to testify **IN SUPPORT** of **HB 1716**. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research and planning.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

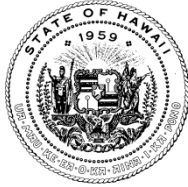
- The appropriation of funds for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is important as the invasion of Hawaii by insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests is one of, if not the, greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, natural environment, and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people.
- Invasive species can cause the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, spread of disease, and millions of dollars in crop losses. A 2010 study by Shwiff, et al., found that if brown tree snakes were introduced to Hawaii, the cost to the State in lost tourism, health costs, and damage to power infrastructure could total \$2,140,000,000 per year.
- In Maui County, this measure will help address our ongoing efforts to deal with invasive species such as miconia, coqui frogs, axis deer, and most recently – the little fire ant. The invasive stinging fire ant was recently confirmed to have made its way from Hawaii Island to Oahu and Maui. If not quickly dealt with, a pest like the red fire ant could forever change the character of our islands as these invasive species would do irreparable harm to our economy and human health, and essentially create an environmental crisis.

Senator David Ige
HB 1716 Relating to Invasive Species
March 25, 2014
Page 2 of 2

- Funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council will ensure statewide coordinated and timely efforts to efficiently combat invasive species.
- While the taxpayers of Maui County have invested millions of dollars in combating invasive species over the years – more needs to be done. Stopping and containing invasive species is essential to Hawaii's current and future well-being.

For these reasons, I support of HB 1716.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 25, 2014
9:05 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

H.B. 1716
**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION,
CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation **supports** H.B. 1716, and its proposed funding for invasive species program of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC). Hawaii's location and environment encourage the introduction of harmful species and requires the multifaceted knowledge and coordinated efforts of the HISC to manage this threat.

We appreciate this opportunity to submit this testimony.



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March 25, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 1716
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION,
CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

Room 211
9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB is in strong support of HB 1716 which appropriates funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.

Invasive species have become one of the most devastating problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture suffers when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, coffee berry borer, macadamia felted coccid, little fire ant, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle and varoa mite, to name a few. Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk. This is not consistent with the State's goal of increasing self sufficiency and sustainability.

Proper funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species is critical for protection of Hawaii's environment and economy and the health and lifestyle of its people through the support of invasive species prevention, control, research, outreach, and planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of SB 2343/ HB 1716 Making an Appropriation for Invasive Species Prevention,
Control, Outreach, Research, and Planning**



Senate Committee on Ways and Means

25 March 2014, 9:00am
Conference Room 211

Audrey Newman
Hawai'i Green Growth
P.O. Box 535
Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 50 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports SB 2343/ HB 1716 to appropriate critical funding for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.

Invasive species are a cross cutting issue that threatens the health of Hawai'i's people, economy and ecosystems. They also reduce our ability to withstand impacts from climate change. We agree that addressing the invasive species threat is a top priority for action by all sectors, and we strongly support the Joint Majority Package proposed \$5 million in funding for the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) to help eradicate threats from invasive species on all the islands.

State leadership and funding are essential for rapid, coordinated and cost-effective response to current and future threats. The recent spread of the Little Fire Ant is just one example of the severe consequences that invasive pest species can have on us all.

Hawai'i was one of the first states to establish an effective interagency Hawai'i Invasive Species Council to provide a comprehensive statewide approach to address the broad impact of invasive species (Act 85 in 2003) and to support active Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) on each island, HISC has been used as a model across the Pacific island region and globally. The Legislature recognized the need for coordinated, holistic and ongoing leadership on this issue. Now is the time to give HISC and partners sufficient support to protect Hawai'i today and in the future.

As a partnership representing Hawai'i's leaders in environment, food and energy, HGG asks for your support of **SB 2343/ HB 1716**, which is an important investment in Hawai'i's future.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration,

Audrey Newman

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy.



Kauai Watershed Alliance

Ben A. Dyre Limited Family Partnership, Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Department of Water County of Kauai, DLNR – Division of Forestry and Wildlife & Land Management Division, Grove Farm Company, Inc., Jurassic Kahili Ranch, Kamehameha Schools, Kauai Ranch LLC, Lihu'e Land Company, McBryde Sugar Company, Ltd., National Tropical Botanical Garden, Princeville Development, LLC



"The Mission of the Kauai Watershed Alliance is to PROTECT, PRESERVE and MANAGE our valuable watershed resources for the benefit of our residents, communities and all future generations through the concerted efforts of its members."

Testimony of the Kauai Watershed Alliance Supporting H.B. 1716 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 9:05AM, Room 211

The Kauai Watershed Alliance (KWA) supports H.B. 1716 and its proposed funding for the invasive species programs of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With Hawaii's connectivity with surface and air passenger/freight services and its favorable conditions and limited competition; non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian Islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive.

The Kauai Watershed Alliance has been actively managing portions of the mauka watershed on Kauai since 2003. We as members make up a diverse group of public and private entities that own land within the mountainous watershed and understand the importance of protecting and preserving the forests that capture fresh water—our most precious resource. Invasive species make up the most critical threat to this resource and our forested watersheds!

The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) provides a comprehensive, statewide approach to invasive species policy and funding including prevention, early detection, control, research and education programs. This effort necessarily results in important coordination, collaboration, and prioritization amongst government agencies and partners based on a variety of issues including human health, safety and well-being, economic and agricultural harm, and the threat to the health and function of the natural environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this critical funding measure.

Chipper Wichman, Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mbuck@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1716 on Mar 25, 2014 09:05AM*
Date: Monday, March 24, 2014 1:20:06 PM

HB1716

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Mar 25, 2014 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mikagawa@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1716 on Mar 25, 2014 09:05AM*
Date: Monday, March 24, 2014 1:50:28 PM

HB1716

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Mar 25, 2014 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ikagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 1716 Relating to an Appropriation for Invasive Species
Prevention, Control, Outreach, Research, and Planning
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 9:05 AM, Room 211

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 1716 and its proposed funding for the invasive species programs of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. Indeed, the colonization rate of introduced insects and mites in Hawai'i has been estimated at 500 times the rate of the continental United States.

The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) provides a comprehensive, statewide approach to invasive species policy and funding including prevention, early detection, control, research and education programs. This effort necessarily results in important coordination, collaboration, and prioritization amongst government agencies and partners based on a variety of issues including human health, safety and well-being, economic and agricultural harm, and the threat to the health and function of the natural environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this critical funding measure.

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