



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014
9:30 A.M.
Conference Room 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 1994
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Wooley and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1994. This bill would require the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to enforce restrictions on intrastate movement of invasive species and establish an invasive species task force to address the movement of plants, plant pests, and vertebrate pests between islands. The Department supports the intent of the bill but believes the regulation of intrastate movement of goods will involve the responsibilities of multiple departments and would be best addressed by a multi-agency group like the Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

Regulation of intrastate movement of commodities to monitor for invasive species is a vast responsibility that will require the coordination of various departments including, but not limited to the Department of Transportation, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Health, and federal partners such as the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) is one such multi-agency group that brings together all of these groups with the common cause of addressing invasive species issues. The HISC has already begun coordinating a multi-agency response to the growing number of invasive species that are being detected at points of entry and exit. Called Mamalu Poepoe, this initiative is pooling the expertise and resources of the Department of Transportation, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture to increase screening at our airports and ports to stop the spread of invasive species before they can be established in our islands. The Department of Transportation has already committed \$300,000 to this effort and we feel that further support of this initiative would be the best approach.



Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Monday, January 27, 2014
9:30 AM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 312**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1994
RELATING TO CIVIL LIABILITY FOR THE INTRASTATE TRANSPORT OF
INVASIVE SPECIES**

House Bill 1994 proposes to require the consignor of certain agricultural and landscape commodities to ensure that coqui frogs, little fire ants, and other pests are not transported within those commodities. This bill would further establish a task force within the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) to address intrastate biosecurity. With regard to the creation of the task force, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) **supports this measure**. With regard to the regulation of agricultural and landscape commodities, the DLNR defers to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

Minimizing the risk of interisland or intrainland movement of invasive species is critical to effectively containing and controlling in Hawaii. The creation of a task force specific to this issue, with funds appropriated for facilitation purposes, is one method for identifying needs for improving intrastate biosecurity. DLNR, which administratively hosts HISC, supports the prioritization of this issue as a topic of interagency discussion.

With regard to the proposed amendments to Chapter 150A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, DLNR appreciates the intent of this measure in strengthening Hawaii's intrastate biosecurity and defers to HDOA on the most practical way to implement and enforce these regulations.

DLNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

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

ESTHER KIA'AINA
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



Testimony of the Maui Invasive Species Committee
Before the Committee on Agriculture
HB 1994 – Relating to Civil Liability for the Intrastate Transport of Invasive Species
Conference Room 312
January 27, 2010, 9:30AM

The Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) supports H.B. 1994. H.B. 1994 would create an affirmative responsibility on those businesses that ship goods posing a high risk of spreading certain invasive species to prevent the inter-island movement of such species. It establishes a quarantine area for the little fire ant and coqui frog, two species that are known to move inter-island.

Because implementation of a more rigorous inter-island biosecurity system will take time, perhaps years, Hawaii's counties would benefit from legislative assurances that they are allowed to enact their own procedures to protect their islands from the continued movement of certain pest species. As an example, Maui County provides nearly two million dollars annually to the island-based watershed partnerships and invasive species committees to tackle invasive species, support that is often significantly more than current state contributions to these efforts. Yes, the same species that are being worked on continue to arrive from other islands, undermining current efforts. Because the counties may already have authority to enact legislation by ordinance to address this issue, language clarifying that this legislation is not intended to remove any such authority might be desirable. Starting with page 21, line 16, deleting the introductory phrase would help clarify this, so language would read:

~~Unless and until the department implements these provisions, including adoption of any necessary rules,~~ **Notwithstanding and not in lieu of any existing authority,** any county may establish its own requirements by ordinance to prevent the introduction of infested, regulated articles, [rest of text as currently drafted].

Regarding information sharing by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, language should clarify that the department may protect proprietary information related to the businesses involved.

Regarding establishment of a task force within the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), on page 23, section 4(b)(2), (3), (4) and (6), suggest clarifying that the work of the task force is limited to the inter-island movement of invasive species as the HISC already addresses these issues on a statewide level. Suggest simply adding the words "**inter-island movement of**" before "invasive species" in each of these subparagraphs. On page 24, suggest adding "Island-based invasive species committees" and "Counties" as numbers (11) and (12), respectively, and renumbering "Others as designated..." as number (13).

Respectfully submitted,

Teya M. Penniman

Manager, Maui Invasive Species Committee

onishi2-Micah-Seth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: AGRtestimony
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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1994 on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM*

HB1994

Submitted on: 1/25/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1994 on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM*

HB1994

Submitted on: 1/24/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

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Cc: bsager42@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1994 on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM

HB1994

Submitted on: 1/25/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Sager	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Quarantine is the first line tool to prevent introduction of dangerous, invasive species to our islands. Invasive species can profoundly effect the quality of life in Hawaii. Keeping dangerous pest out of Hawaii is a never ending job. We cannot let down our guard and consistent funding for quarantine and rapid response teams is vital. The Quarantine program must have consistent funding at a level which enables effective programs. It is inevitable that bad guys will slip through. The rapid response teams that deal with incipient infestations are a vital part of the overall program. Keeping invasive species out of the State is vital, but so is preventing the transportation of invasive species between islands. Preventing the intra-state transportation of invasive species such as the little fire ant and the coqui frog is equally important. HB 1994 addresses the problem of intra-state transport and places the responsibility to ensure shipments of products between our islands are free of invasive species on the shipper. This legislation addresses a serious problem. It is much cheaper and more effective to keep the bad guys out than to try to deal with them once they are established in Hawaii.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1994 on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM*

HB1994

Submitted on: 1/26/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1994 on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM*

HB1994

Submitted on: 1/26/2014

Testimony for AGR on Jan 27, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rob Tarver	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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