

SB 2343

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.

Report Title: Invasive Species Council; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**
Thursday, February 6, 2014
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of
SB 2343
**RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES
PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.**

Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Water and Land.

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 SB2343 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

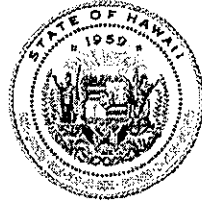
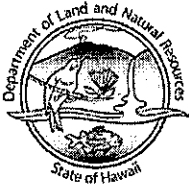
(ORMP), a statewide, multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional plan to achieve comprehensive and integrated ocean and coastal resources management. The 2013 update of the ORMP has identified two (2) marine resource goals to:

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 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 Committees on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER AND LAND**

**Thursday, February 6, 2014
2:45 PM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION,
CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING**

Senate Bill 2343 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 joint priority package or 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

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
KAIKOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



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 COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT AND WATER
& LAND

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2014
2:45 P.M.
ROOM 225

SENATE BILL NO. 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING.

Chairpersons Gabbard and Solomon and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2343. 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.

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.

HDOA supports this measure, but defers to HISC as to how the proposed funding would be allocated.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.





**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 Energy and Environment

6 February 2014, 2:45pm
Conference Room 225

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

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) in support of **SB 2343/ HB 1716 to appropriate critical funding for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, research, and planning.**

HGG is a multi-sector partnership committed to achieving a resilient, sustainable Hawai'i. We bring leaders from the energy, food and environmental sectors together to achieve Hawai'i's sustainability goals and to be a model for building a green economy. HGG's members include more than 80 leaders and advisors from government, business and non-profit organizations.

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 Hawaii'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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey Newman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2343 Making an Appropriation for Invasive Species
Prevention, Control, Outreach, Research, and Planning
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Thursday, February 6, 2014, 2:45PM, Room 225

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 S.B. 2343 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.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alan H. Arizumi Christopher J. Benjamin Anne S. Carter Richard A. Cooke III Peter H. Ehrman Kenton T. Eldridge
Thomas M. Gottlieb James J.C. Haynes III Mark L. Johnson Dr. Kenneth Y. Kaneshiro Eiichiro Kuwana
Duncan MacNaughton Wayne K. Minami A. Catherine Ngo James C. Polk H. Monty Richards Chet A. Richardson
Jean E. Rolles Scott C. Rolles Crystal K. Rose Dustin E. Sellers Dustin M. Shindo Nathan E. Smith James Wei Eric K. Yeaman

Chair: Kenton T. Eldridge *Chair Emeriti:* Samuel A. Cooke (co-founder; chair 1980-1991), Herbert C. Cornuelle (co-founder), Bill D. Mills (1991-1995), Jeffrey N. Watanabe (1995-2004), David C. Cole (2004-2008), Duncan MacNaughton (2008-2011)



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 6, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON SB 2343
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL,
OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

Room 225
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committees:

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 SB 2343 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, brown tree snake, 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.

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 3, 2014

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Committee on Energy and Environment
Senator Malama Solomon
Chair, Committee on Water and Land
Hearing on Senate Bill 2343
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Solomon!

We have and continue to experience, the negative effects of short changing nature and our pristine lands and oceans by an erratic application of resources to combat invasive species – the list is long.

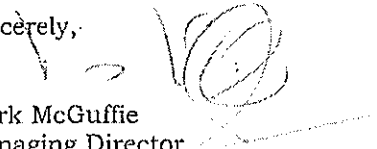
It is incumbent upon us now, to rise to the occasion and reverse these damaging effects by effecting policy that does not waiver – you have seen the effects, you have seen the estimates – let's get serious about protecting Hawai'i...increase the appropriations annually, we know this will continue to be a battle for generations, unless we act.

Enterprise Honolulu is supportive of Senate Bill 2343 and all the good work performed by the numerous agencies involved with invasive species control, and ask that the Committees consider strengthening this effort further, by providing a consistent annual source of resources to bolster preventive control measures, outreach, research and effective planning.

Once I was told, "the coqui are too far gone, no point in eradication or control efforts"...?? Nature has an incredible way of balancing the environment. Our ancestors revered this place and were in balance with nature – if we really revere our home - then, it is time to mālama...

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Mark McGuffie
Managing Director
Enterprise Honolulu, Oahu Economic Development Board


ENTERPRISE
HONOLULU
THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

SB2343

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teya Penniman	Maui Invasive Species Committee	Support	Yes

Comments: The Maui Invasive Species Committee supports this bill. Current funding levels for invasive species work are not adequate to address the agricultural, environmental and economic impacts of invasive species.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

MALAMA I KA HONUA
Cherish the Earth

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

February 6, 2014, 2:45 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2343

Aloha Chair Wooley and Members of the Committees:

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, with over 12,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, *supports* SB 2343. The measure provides \$5 million for invasive species prevention.

Adequate funding for the control and prevention of invasive species has been lacking for too long. As a result, Hawai'i's residents, businesses, and agricultural operations are footing the bill. Estimates by one state biologist show that alien pests cost residents and the agriculture industry upwards of \$400 million annually.

Hawai'i is losing the war on alien species. Some alien species, such as miconia, threaten to destroy watersheds and native ecosystems, jeopardizing freshwater supplies and pushing species to extinction. Other alien species, such as the coqui frog and dengue and its carriers, threaten our health, tourist industry, and our quality of life.

Invasive pests from the Asia and the U.S. mainland wreck havoc on native ecosystems. The cost—both economic and environmental—of introduced species in Hawai'i is astronomical. Tourism, agriculture, native species, and citizens' way of life are threatened with each new introduction. Sufficient funding to reduce introductions is clearly warranted; this is one area where an ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB2343

Submitted on: 1/29/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No