



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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2014
9:15 A.M.
ROOM 211**

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

Chairperson Ige and Members of the Committee:

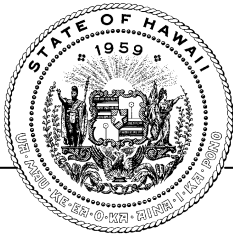
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2343. This bill will provide funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), for the protection of Hawaii's environment and economy and the health and lifestyle of its people through the support of invasive species prevention, control, 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.





**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

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NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

JESSE K. SOUKI
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Wednesday, February 19, 2014
9:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 2343
**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 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

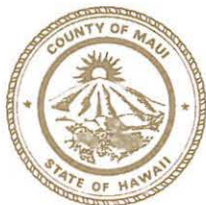
integrated ocean and coastal resources management. The 2013 update of the ORMP has identified two (2) marine resource goals to:

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.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



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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

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 9:15 a.m., Conference Rm. 211

SENATE BILL 2343 RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION, CONTROL, OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING

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

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments **IN SUPPORT** of **SB 2343**. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Invasive Species Council for invasive species prevention, control, outreach, and planning.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

- The appropriation of funds for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is important as invasive species can cause the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, spread of disease, and millions of dollars in crop losses.
- 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, these invasive species will do irreparable harm to our economy and human health, and essentially create an environmental crisis.
- 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. The importance of this matter is recognized in the Countywide Policy Plan that provides the following objective: “Expand coordination with the State and nonprofit agencies and their volunteers to reduce invasive species, replant indigenous species, and identify critical habitat.”

For these reasons, I support of SB 2343.

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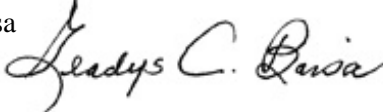


Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.maui-county.gov/council

February 18, 2014

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Gladys C. Baisa
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2014; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2343,
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

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

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Invasive species cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native forests, and the spread of disease. Stopping the influx of new pests and containing their spread is essential to Hawaii's natural environment, economy, and agriculture.
2. Funding for the Hawaii Invasive Species Council will ensure statewide coordinated and timely efforts are made to most efficiently combat invasive species, such as the little fire ant, the coffee berry borer, and the brown tree snake.
3. County of Maui taxpayers have invested millions of dollars in fighting invasive species over the years through supporting the Maui Invasive Species Committee's work and other watershed-protection initiatives. With increased support from the State, we can - and we must - do so much more. Indeed, the Countywide Policy Plan identifies the following objective: "Expand coordination with the State and nonprofit agencies and their volunteers to reduce invasive species, replant indigenous species, and identify critical habitat."

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2343 Making an Appropriation for Invasive Species
Prevention, Control, Outreach, Research, and Planning
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 9:15AM, 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 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.

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**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

19 February 2014, 9:15am
Conference Room 211

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

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, 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 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,

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



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 19, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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

Room 211
9:15 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 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, 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: glenshiroma@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2343 on Feb 19, 2014 09:15AM
Date: Saturday, February 15, 2014 10:44:45 AM

SB2343

Submitted on: 2/15/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 19, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Shiroma	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT. Found fire ants in by backyard...

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Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2343 on Feb 19, 2014 09:15AM*
Date: Sunday, February 16, 2014 9:44:35 AM

SB2343

Submitted on: 2/16/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 19, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments:

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Date: Friday, February 14, 2014 5:39:51 PM

SB2343

Submitted on: 2/14/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 19, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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