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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that responding quickly  
2 to newly detected invasive species in the State can often "nip  
3 the problem in the bud" and prevent it from becoming firmly  
4 established, thus saving taxpayers money in the long term.  
5 State agencies currently lack resources and a mechanism to  
6 quickly respond to new threats and, therefore, may be missing  
7 opportunities to eliminate those threats. This may allow new  
8 invasive species to become established in the State and make  
9 efforts to mitigate or eliminate them more protracted and  
10 expensive.

11           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create a  
12 mechanism for the rapid response to invasive species so that  
13 newly detected threats may be immediately addressed.

14           SECTION 2. Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
16 and to read as follows:



1        "§194-        Invasive species rapid response special fund.

2        (a) There is established the invasive species rapid response  
3 special fund, into which shall be deposited appropriations by  
4 the legislature for the purposes of mitigating or eradicating  
5 newly detected invasive species threats in the State. All  
6 interest earned or accrued on moneys deposited into the fund  
7 shall become part of the fund. The council shall administer the  
8 special fund and may expend moneys in the special fund in  
9 accordance with this section.

10       (b) If the council determines that one or more newly  
11 detected invasive species pose a substantial threat to the  
12 agriculture, commerce, economy, environment, or public health of  
13 the State or otherwise warrant immediate action, the council  
14 shall submit a request to the governor to declare that there  
15 exists an invasive species emergency.

16       (c) Upon declaration by the governor pursuant to  
17 subsection (b) that there exists an invasive species emergency,  
18 the council may take action in response to the emergency and  
19 make expenditures from the fund without legislative approval and  
20 without regard to chapters 36, 37, 89, and 103D.



1        (d) The council shall include an accounting of moneys  
2 expended from the fund and shall include the information in its  
3 annual report to the legislature."

4        SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
7 deposit into the invasive species rapid response special fund.

8        SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

9        SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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# H.B. NO. 1596

**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; Mitigation and Eradication; Special Fund;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the invasive species rapid response special fund within DLNR. Establishes procedures for emergency declarations and expenditures. Appropriates moneys.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

