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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RAT LUNGWORM DISEASE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of  
2 health has reported over seventy cases of rat lungworm disease  
3 caused by *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* from 2001 to 2014. There  
4 have been many more cases in 2015, including at least two on  
5 Maui. The disease has claimed lives and caused crippling  
6 chronic disability. The cost for one severe case can exceed  
7 \$1,000,000. The Hawaii island rat lungworm disease working  
8 group has been formed at the Daniel K. Inouye college of  
9 pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and has been  
10 conducting research and educational outreach on the disease for  
11 the past four years.

12           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
13 University of Hawaii at Hilo, the department of health, and the  
14 department of land and natural resources for programs, studies,  
15 and activities related to the prevention and eradication of rat  
16 lungworm disease.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
4 programs, studies, and activities related to the prevention and  
5 eradication of rat lungworm disease, including:

- 6 (1) Implementing a statewide collaborative effort to  
7 monitor invasive mollusk and paratenic hosts for rat  
8 lungworm infection;
- 9 (2) Conducting laboratory testing of a wide range of  
10 commercially available produce washes as well as other  
11 potential solutions;
- 12 (3) Conducting laboratory testing of commercially  
13 available filters and ultraviolet systems to determine  
14 effectiveness in catchment;
- 15 (4) Optimizing existing tests or developing new blood-  
16 based tests for rat lungworm diagnostics;
- 17 (5) Developing an integrated pest management plan for best  
18 practices for control of rat lungworm hosts and  
19 providing that information to the public;
- 20 (6) Developing a rural health educational outreach program  
21 for rainwater catchment users;



- 1           (7) Providing educational outreach to farmers' groups and  
2           farmers providing food for schools to implement  
3           integrated pest maintenance for control of carriers of  
4           rat lungworm disease;
- 5           (8) Providing educational outreach to kindergarten through  
6           twelfth grade school personnel involved in food  
7           procurement and preparation, and school garden  
8           projects;
- 9           (9) Developing rat lungworm curriculum and an integrated  
10          pest management plan for control of invasive hosts in  
11          all Hawaii school garden projects; and
- 12          (10) Together with the department of health and the  
13          department of land and natural resources, providing  
14          educational outreach materials for the general public  
15          and Hawaii health care providers.

16          The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
17 Hawaii at Hilo for the purposes of this Act.

18          SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
21 activities related to the prevention and eradication of rat



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1 lungworm disease, including, together with the University of  
 2 Hawaii at Hilo and the department of land and natural resources,  
 3 providing educational outreach materials for the general public  
 4 and Hawaii health care providers.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 6 health for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
 8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
 9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
 10 activities relating to the prevention and eradication of rat  
 11 lungworm disease, including, together with the University of  
 12 Hawaii at Hilo and the department of health, providing  
 13 educational outreach materials for the general public and Hawaii  
 14 health care providers.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 16 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Ross F. Poff*

*Joanna Chun Chan*  
*Hawaii*

*Michelle* *Will Ezer*

*Randy H. Baker*  
*Mike Gohman*



# S.B. NO. 2516

**Report Title:**

Rat Lungworm Disease; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii at Hilo, the department of health, and the department of land and natural resources for programs, studies, and activities related to rat lungworm disease.

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