

JAN 27 2016

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO MANAGE ALBIZIA TREES ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that albizia, *Falcataria*  
2 *moluccana*, is an invasive species that presents an increasingly  
3 costly threat to the economy, critical infrastructure, and  
4 public safety on the island of Hawaii. The likelihood of  
5 albizia trees falling and the long distances between residential  
6 areas and emergency services add significantly to the  
7 uncertainty of emergency response capability, resulting in the  
8 potential loss of human life following a hurricane. Further,  
9 the pre-planned removal of each albizia tree costs significantly  
10 less than the combined direct and indirect costs of removal if  
11 and when it falls into a road, power line, or building. The Big  
12 Island Invasive Species Committee has demonstrated the  
13 effectiveness and necessity of a coordinated approach to  
14 controlling the growth and spread of albizia trees.

15           The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the  
16 control of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the  
4 department of land and natural resources division of forestry  
5 and wildlife for the immediate, coordinated management of  
6 albizia trees that threaten access to critical emergency  
7 services and transportation routes identified by the Hawaii  
8 county civil defense agency for the island of Hawaii, as  
9 follows:

- 10 (1) The funds shall be expended solely for the coordinated  
11 management of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii,  
12 except that other plants may be incidentally removed  
13 in the process. If the project cannot be continued,  
14 funds may be transferred to another island invasive  
15 species committee to accomplish the same purpose on  
16 that island;
- 17 (2) Albizia trees shall be completely removed from highway  
18 rights of way, and albizia trees outside the right of  
19 way that are deemed non-hazardous shall be treated and  
20 left in place; and



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1           (3) Control of albizia trees shall be concentrated in the  
2 following areas:

3           (A) The two-mile stretch of highway 132 between Lava  
4 Tree state park and Pahoia;

5           (B) Isolated patches of albizia trees between  
6 Kalapana and Pahoia;

7           (C) Isolated patches of albizia trees between Pahoia  
8 and Keaau;

9           (D) The hospital corridor, particularly the segment  
10 of Waianuenue avenue from Komohana street to  
11 Akolea road, the segment of Akolea road from  
12 Waianuenue avenue to Kaumana drive, and Puainako  
13 street from highway 11 to Kaumana drive; and

14           (E) Any additional areas of the island of Hawaii as  
15 deemed necessary by the Big Island Invasive  
16 Species Committee.

17           SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the  
18 department of land and natural resources division of forestry  
19 and wildlife for use by the Big Island Invasive Species  
20 Committee for the purposes of this Act.

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1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; Appropriation; Albizia

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation to the department of land and natural resources division of forestry and wildlife for the Big Island Invasive Species Committee for the immediate coordinated management of albizia trees on the island of Hawaii.

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