

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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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
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Thursday, February 18, 2016
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1869
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET**

House Bill 1869 proposes to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to support research and control of rose-ringed parakeet on the island of Kauai. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

The Department recognizes that there has been an increase in reports of rose-ringed parakeet flocks on the island of Kauai and that this species may be a nuisance to farmers. The proposed research by the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) would also examine whether this species poses threats to Hawaii's natural resources by feeding on native plant seeds or dispersing non-native plant seeds from low-elevation farms and forests into higher-elevation native forests. The Department notes that until research by NWRC is completed and a control plan is developed, it may be difficult to determine an appropriate amount of funding to implement such a plan, as is required by section three of this measure. The Department defers to HDOA on an appropriate amount of funding for the research and planning activities described by this measure.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

February 18, 2016
9:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 1869
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1869. This bill would appropriate general funds to the department to: 1) fund the National Wildlife Research Center's assessment of the impacts of the parakeet and; 2) to develop a control program to reduce the impacts of the parakeet. The department supports part 1 of this measure provided it does not impact the department's priorities submitted in the executive budget, but has reservations with part 2.

The department recognizes that rose-ringed parakeet is an environmental pest and agricultural pest. It spreads seeds of noxious weeds into the forests causing the dispersal of these weeds into the forest areas which compete with and often overwhelm the native plants, changing the ecology of the forests. This then has secondary negative impacts on the native birds, insects, bats, etc. In addition, the rose-ringed parakeet feeds on fruit grown in agricultural areas resulting in a negative impact on agriculture production. The National Wildlife Research Center has begun, but has not completed, studies on the impacts of these birds in Hawaii. This funding will continue that research which will be needed to develop effective control measures.

The second part of this bill mandates the department to develop a control program to manage these birds. Any control program will need to be based on an



understanding of the bird's biology, ecology, and behavior. The National Wildlife Research Center's study should provide some of this needed information. However, the department does not have any expertise in the control of birds and in particular large populations of birds such as this that are having an impact in nonagricultural areas such as the forests.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SHAN TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE
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RESOURCES

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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LEO ASUNCION
OFFICE OF PLANNING, DEPARTMENT OF
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &
TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

9:00 AM, Thursday, February 18, 2016

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

HOUSE BILL 1869

RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

House Bill 1869 would appropriate funds to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to support research and control of rose-ringed parakeet on the island of Kauai. The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.

The HISC understands that public reports of this species as a nuisance to agricultural resources are increasing on Kauai. The proposed research by the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) would also examine whether this species poses a natural resource threat by moving non-native seeds. The HISC supports the appropriation of funds to HDOA to work with NWRC on research and planning related to this species.



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February 18, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1869
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB supports HB 1869, appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to assist and fund the National Wildlife Research Center to research the negative impacts of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai and develop and implement a control plan to reduce the negative impacts.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

HFB agrees that we need a cost-effective means to control the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce the potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 6:36 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1869 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

HB1869

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for AGR on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this bill the parakeets are reading havoc on Kauai agriculture. We don't need anymore hurdles or hoops to jump through. Appreciate your consideration. Johnny Gordines Kauai farmer

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 3:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: LaurieHo1@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1869 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

HB1869

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for AGR on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for the opportunity to submit written testimony on bill HB 1869. We have been observing the population increase of these Rose Ringed -necked Parakeets on Kauai for a couple of years now and see they are growing more aggressive and accustomed to eating "Agricultural" crops. Members of the Kauai County Farm Bureau would like to urge you to support this bill. Aloha.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 4:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lccrampton@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1869 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM*

HB1869

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for AGR on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Crampton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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