

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Thursday, March 30, 2017
1:40 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1006, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

House Bill 1006, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to provide funds to support research and control of invasive ants under the direction of the Hawaii Ant Lab, a project of the University of Hawaii. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this initiative, as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.**

The Department has a long history of working with the Hawaii Ant Lab. The Hawaii Ant Lab employs the foremost experts on the little fire ant and is the lead coordinating entity for little fire ant eradication projects on Kauai, Oahu, and Maui. The Hawaii Ant Lab is also a resource for public education and support in mitigating widespread little fire ant infestations on Hawaii Island. The Department supports the critical work being done by this lab.

The Department notes that the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan describes the need for increased research and control of established pests, such as the little fire ant, under action item #121 (PosTifs2.3). Providing stable funding to the Hawaii Ant Lab is a recommendation of the Biosecurity Plan described by action item #114 (PostTifs 1.11).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

**MARCH 30, 2017
1:40 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1006 HD1 SD1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 1006 HD1 SD1. This bill provides continued funding to the Hawaii Ant Lab project. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

This project deals directly with education and eradication efforts, where possible, in order to contain and inhibit the movement of the Little Fire Ant into areas around the State where the invasive insect does not currently inhabit. This insect pest is so severe that it has greatly altered the way people and their animals interact with their outdoor environment. The good work of the Hawaii Ant Lab needs continued funding to preserve its efforts to achieve the goals of eradication, where possible, and containment and restriction of the ant pest within those areas that are overwhelmed by the insect. In those places where the ant is fully established, outreach to homeowners and householders on what their options are for managing the pest in and around their homes continues to be a goal of the Hawaii Ant Lab.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SHAN TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325
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VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL
RESOURCES

SCOTT ENRIGHT
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MARIA GALLO, Ph.D.
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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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, March 30, 2017

1:40 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

HOUSE BILL 1006 HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

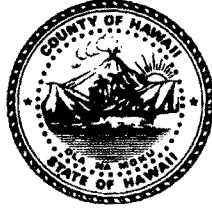
House Bill 1006 House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to provide funds to support research and control of invasive ants under the direction of the Hawaii Ant Lab, a project of the University of Hawaii. **The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) supports this measure.**

The HISC is one of the primary funders of the Hawaii Ant Lab, but has been unable to fully support funding requests from the Hawaii Ant Lab due to limited availability of funds. The HISC therefore supports this measure to provide a separate appropriation to the Hawaii Ant Lab, provided that it does not impact other requests relating to invasive species in the Executive Budget.

The Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP) describes the need for increased research and control of established pests, such as the little fire ant, and provision of stable funding to the Hawaii Ant Lab (HIBP action items PosTifs2.3 and PostTifs 1.11). Passage of this measure would facilitate timely implementation of the Biosecurity Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

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March 29, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Committee Members:

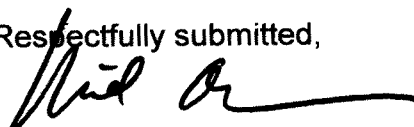
RE: HB 904, HD 1, SD 1 – Relating to Invasive Species (rapid response)
HB 1006, HD 1, SD 1 – Relating to Invasive Species (little fire ants)
HB 1339, HD 1, SD 1 – Relating to Invasive Species (restructuring)

You have several bills on today's agenda dealing with invasive species, including HB 904, HD1, SD1; HB1006, HD1, SD1; HB1339, HD1, SD1; and HB655, HD1, SD1. Although I am reluctant to single out one bill over another, and prefer to defer to your good judgment as to the merits of each, I do want to urge that funding to fight little fire ants (HB1006) be approved if at all possible.

Beyond that, I primarily want to thank you for the focus you have put on this issue this session. The Council of Mayors has identified invasive species as a top-priority that deserves the attention of all of us. Even our best efforts are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests, and limited resources make it imperative that we work together in pursuing solutions to what often seem intractable problems.

With the possible exception (so far) of the parakeet problem, it seems that Hawaii County has suffered a disproportionate share of the damage caused by invasive species, including coffee berry borer beetle, little fire ants, coqui frogs, rapid ohia death and probably others. But all our islands, and all our constituents, are at risk. My primary request to you would be "Please don't give up." As a county, we do not have the resources or expertise to fight these devastating invaders on our own. We need as much assistance from you as you can offer.

Respectfully submitted,


for Harry Kim
Mayor

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 6:31 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: littlefireanthui@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1006 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM*

HB1006

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Dillon	Little Fire Ant HUI	Support	No

Comments:

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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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1006, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Room 211
1:40 PM

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, 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 strongly supports HB 1006, HD1, SD1, which appropriates funds to the Hawaii ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

HFB recognizes the harm that the little fire ant has caused to farms, businesses, and the quality of life of those affected by the pest. We agree that continued measures must be undertaken to stop its spread to other areas.

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



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:40 pm
Room 211

Support for HB 1006 HD 1 SD 1 Relating to Invasive Species

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1006 HD 1 SD 1, which appropriates funds to the Hawai'i ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

This dangerous pest harms humans, and babies are especially vulnerable. The ants also sting and can blind pet dogs and cats.

Please consider a sufficient amount of funding in fiscal year 2017-2018 to support programs to prevent the little fire ant from spreading.

- Little fire ant infestations are widespread throughout the windward side of Hawai'i Island, including in Hilo, the Puna district, and along the Hamakua Coast, and in and around nurseries and properties that purchased plants from infested nurseries. Smaller infestations have been found in the Kailua Kona area.
- On Kaua'i, one infestation is known in the Kalihiwai area.
- On O'ahu, it was first detected in December 2013 in a shipment of hapu'u (tree fern) logs from Hawai'i Island. Numerous additional infestations have been found.
- On Maui, it was first found in Waihe'e in 2009, then in Nahiku in 2014, and in Huelo and Hana in 2015.
- It is not known to be present at this time on Moloka'i, Lana'i, or Kaho'olawe.

Please pass HB 1006 HD 1 SD 1 and ask for enough money to do the job right and eliminate these ants if at all possible. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



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President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton

Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





The Senate
Committee on Ways and Means
March 30, 2017
1:40 p.m., Conference Room 211
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 1006 HD1 SD1

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members,
The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **is in support of HB 1006 HD1 SD1, *Relating to Invasive Species***. The aim of this measure is to provide funding to the Hawai'i Ant Lab (HAL). Providing direct funding to support HAL through the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit of the University of Hawai'i would enable HAL to continue to work towards eradicating little fire ants on Kaua'i, Oahu, and Maui, while providing control education and assistance to residents and property owners on Hawai'i island. As you are aware, there is a great need for additional funding for invasive species work, some of which would be partially supported through competitive grant processes of HISC and the Watershed Partnerships, or via agency budgets. However, there are several invasive species with control programs that are very high priorities and must be fully funded. HAL is one such program. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:12 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1006 on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM*

HB1006

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2017 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments:

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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