

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

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 1, 2017
8:45 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1013
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1013. This bill will provide the vehicle for the restructuring of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (HISA). The restructuring will attach the HISA to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture which will coordinate the implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. HISA will become the vehicle to organize the State's Invasive Species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement and outreach activities. The Department strongly supports this measure.

At the Department of Agriculture, we are keenly aware of the economic impact that invasive pest species has on our farmers. Additionally, new pest species affect the outdoor environment that we live, work, and play in. The establishment of the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority places the efforts of controlling and managing invasive pests under one regulatory authority with dedicated staff and resources. HISA will also have a board comprised of vested stakeholders, including a member from the agricultural industry, natural resource conservation, and the Native Hawaii cultural community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2017
8:45 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1013
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

House Bill 1013 proposes to restructure the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (HISA), an agency attached administratively to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) with expanded board membership that would allow for participation from non-governmental stakeholders. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department has acted as the administrative host of the interagency HISC since its creation in 2003 and serves as co-chair along with the HDOA. Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires the HISC to perform a broad spectrum of policy and coordination duties associated with invasive species. The HISC also manages an annual interagency budget to support innovative interagency projects that fill gaps between agency mandates. Chapter 194, HRS, establishes the HISC as a board only, comprised of chairs or directors of state departments, and does not provide staff or funding for the operation of the HISC. As such, the Department has provided existing staff resources to effectuate the directions of the HISC.

This measure would add three non-ex-officio seats to the voting board, to be appointed by the Governor, to represent the interests of stakeholders outside of state government including agricultural and horticultural stakeholders, conservation stakeholders, and an individual with expertise in Native Hawaiian cultural practices. This measure would also authorize the HISA to hire staff necessary to effectuate the direction of the board, and provides an appropriation for this purpose. Rather than being administratively hosted within an existing agency, the HISA would function as a semi-autonomous attached agency.

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

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

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

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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

With regard to attachment to HDOA, the Department notes that HDOA has broad mandates regarding invasive species and biosecurity and would be an appropriate agency to which the HISA could be attached. As proposed, both the Department and HDOA would continue to act as co-chairs on the board of directors.

This measure also appropriates funds for an interagency budget to support gap-filling projects, similar to that currently operated by the HISC. The amount of funding requested for this appropriation matches the need identified by invasive species practitioners for interagency projects in Fiscal Year 18. Pre-proposals describing potential uses of appropriated funds were developed by researchers and project leads across various agencies, and can be found in detail on the HISC website.

In preparation of an attached agency concept for invasive species coordination, HISC staff conducted a stakeholder survey to gather input on desired components of an enhanced coordinating entity. Stakeholder input was broadly supportive of the HISA concept.

Establishing the HISA is a key recommendation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (2017-2027), which is part of the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative. Biosecurity Plan action item #82 (PosPol 2.1) describes the need to enact legislation restructuring the HISC as the HISA, and item #104 (PosTifs 1.1) describes the need to fund the operating cost and interagency budget needs of this program. The HISA would be the primary entity responsible for facilitating implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and would be responsible for tracking progress toward implementation and providing reports to the legislature.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 8:45 am

By

Rachel Novotny, Interim Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1013 – RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1013 which restructures the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, administratively attached to the department of agriculture, to coordinate implementation of the Hawai'i interagency biosecurity plan and to improve coordination of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs; and appropriates funds to implement the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects.

The University of Hawai'i is a member of the interagency Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, and will remain a member under the restructuring proposed in HB 1013. We support this restructuring and attachment to the Department of Agriculture, and believe that it will strengthen efforts to prevent and control invasive pests, plants, and plant diseases in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the effort to testify in support of HB 1013.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 11:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dale@hicattle.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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TIM VANDEVEER
Chair,
MARIE STRAZAR
Vice Chair

MARGARET WILLE
SEAN SMITH
Legislative Committee Co-Chairs

January 30, 2017

Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair
House Committee on Agriculture
HB1013

RELATED TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION
Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 8:45 pm State Capitol, Conference Room 312

Submitted on Behalf of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

The Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports HB1013 “Related to Invasive Species Program Administration.” This bill restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to become the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority. The Authority, housed in the Department of Agriculture, will be given more resources such funding, staff, and board members in order to fulfill the goals of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. **Passage of HB1013 is one of DPH’s Legislative Priorities for this 2017 Legislative Session.**

At the Democratic Party of Hawaii State Convention of 2016 the DPH passed Resolution ENV 2016-03 Invasive Species Prevention. The resolution states, “the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i urges the State Legislature to significantly increase the appropriation for invasive species control to the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, including funding the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture’s Biosecurity Plan.” Additionally “the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i calls on the State Legislature to draft, sponsor, and pass legislation regarding invasive species prevention and eradication, including but not limited to quarantine procedures, regulations to stop intra- and inter-island spread of invasive species, and punitive consequences for businesses selling infested products”.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii supports the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and all legislative priorities needed for its success. The creation of the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority is called for in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and given a priority ranking of 1. DPH believes the State of Hawaii needs to prioritize and fund the prevention, eradication and mitigation of invasive species in Hawaii. Inaction or insufficient resources towards the fight of invasive species like little red fire ants, rapid

‘ohi‘a death, coffee berry borer, fireweed, etc will have long-term harmful impacts on our State’s economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing. Farms, ranches, nurseries, and tourism are just some of the industries immediately threatened by invasive species. The spread of the little red fire ants alone, is having a devastating impact on the people of Hawaii’s health and quality of life. The DPH asks you to invest in prevention of the spread of invasive species and give all the tools requested in the Interagency Biosecurity plan including the Invasive Species Authority and necessary funding.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Vandever', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

/s/ Tim Vandever (tim@hawaiidemocrats.org)
Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

/s/ Marie (Dolly) Strazar (hilomds@gmail.com)
Vice Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

/s/ Margaret Wille (margaretwille@mac.com)
/s/ Sean Smith (simashang@yahoo.com)
Legislative Committee Co-chairs

Headquarters 627 South Street P.O. Box 2041 Honolulu Hawaii 96805 808-596-2980

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alan@prloffice.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 6:04 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peterw@bestfriends.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter J. Wolf	Best Friends Animal Society	Oppose	No

Comments: On behalf of Best Friends Animal Society and our many supporters throughout the Hawaiian Islands, I urge the Members of the House Committee on Agriculture to oppose HB1013, which would establish the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority. This bill would grant the Department of Agriculture broad discretion and funding (already granted to the Department of Land and Natural Resources) for the application of lethal methods for managing Hawaii’s outdoor cats. While we appreciate the need to protect Hawaii’s native plants and animals, the provisions outlined in HB1013 are actually likely to backfire. Indeed, these policies are not only direct threats to cats—owned and unowned alike—but also likely to have a chilling effect on sterilization programs used to effectively and humanely manage “feral” cat populations throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Many residents who volunteer their time and provide financial support for such programs, for example, would be discouraged if they knew the cats they care for were at risk for lethal roundups—and choose not to participate as a result (leading to more unsterilized cats). We urge you to instead consider laws that would encourage sterilization programs—which, surveys show, enjoy broad public support. A Ward Research survey of residents of Hawaii, for example, found 85% support, compared to just 15% support for “trap-and-kill programs.” HB1013 betrays the public’s trust in private property rights, government transparency, and due process. Please oppose this harmful bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 11:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 9:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ariannafeinberg@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arianna Feinberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha House Agriculture Committee Members, I am a born and raised Maui resident and small business owner and I strongly support HB1013 "Related to Invasive Species Program Administration." This bill restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to become the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority. The Authority will be given more resources such staff, board members, and additional funding in order to fulfill the goals of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. I am greatly disappointed in Hawaii's historical response to the threat of invasive species. It sickens me that the Big Island's East Side seems terminally doomed to be ridden with Little Fire Ants and Coqui frogs. I visit Hilo monthly for business and am always disturbed by the calls of the coqui frogs and am paranoid that I'm getting bit by LFA or accidentally bringing them home to Maui in my luggage. I wish we could go back in time to intercept the LFA and coqui on their way to the Big Island. As a second best option, once these species were discovered we should have given more resources towards their early eradication. Now it seems like it is too far gone for those East Hawaii Island communities to ever be free of these pests. I think this mentality of defeat on the Big Island needs to change and we should go to war with the LFA, coqui and other invasives by being better organized, funded and focus our efforts on biocontrols. Until biocontrols are properly developed for eradication we must give adequate resources to mitigation and containment. We cannot let the invasive species on the Big Island get a hold on the other islands. It will be cheaper, in the long run, to focus now on the interception and early detection vs the economic toll of losing whole industries to invasive species such as nurseries, farms, and orchards. Also if LFA spread to our beaches it will be detrimental to our tourism industry and locals quality of life. Currently, it seems like the Hawaii Invasive Species Council is spread too thin putting out fires such as new outbreaks of existing invasive species problems. I fear that they do not have the infrastructure to respond to a totally new threat if one arises. Additionally, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council does not have the funding or tools to adequately carry out the plans of the Interagency Biosecurity Plan. Please do all in your power to help the Agencies succeed in following through with the Biosecurity Plan including creating the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority and significantly upping their budget. We need to do everything in our power to prevent, eradicate and mitigate the harms from invasive species. Much of Hawaii's value is in our unique natural resources.

Please do everything in your power to protect these resources for the sake of our economy and future generations. Please vote in favor of HB1013. Mahalo for considering my testimony. Arianna Feinberg House District 12 - Upcountry Maui

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 7:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 1:35 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Glenn	DOH/OEQC	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

The House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture
February 1, 2017
8:45 a.m., Conference Room 312
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 1013

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Committee Members,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **is in support of HB 1013, *Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration***. The aim of this measure is to restructure the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) as an Authority administratively attached to the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA), and appropriate funds.

For decades, agencies and non-government organizations have not only tried to address individual invasive species and impacts, but also the underlying issues that continue to place Hawai'i at risk. It is important to stop and count the many policies and programs that have been instituted over the years through the efforts of leaders and partnerships. The creation of the Invasive Species Committees, the Watershed Partnerships, the Hawai'i Ant Lab, and the HISC itself are all great examples. The HISC in particular has been an amazing success, so why change it? The answer is because we are still not where we need to be with regard to biosecurity policies, programs, public participation, and funding, and we must continue to advocate for what is necessary to do the job. The 2002 Filling the Gaps in the Fight on Invasive Species LRB report listed the need at \$50 million per year, some of which included necessary capital improvement costs such as planning and constructing a new biocontrol facility. While we are happy to see that funding is being requested to begin planning for the facility, there are many, many issues that must be addressed, and as this committee is well aware, new invasive species are arriving all the time. For these reasons, we ask for your support of HB 1013. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Wednesday, February 1, 2017 – 8:45 AM - Room 312

**RE: HB 1013 - Relating to Invasive Species Program
Administration - In Support**

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite and Members of the
Committee:

The Local Food Coalition supports HB 1013, which restructures the
Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species
Authority, administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture,
to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity
Plan.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers,
ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations
working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

Invasive species threaten agricultural production. In addition, they
threaten the natural environment, the health of Hawaii's residents
and the State's economy. The State needs enhanced coordination of
its invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response,
control, enforcement, and outreach programs. We support HB 1013
as it will provide the leadership, staffing and funding to help mitigate
current and future threats and impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We ask for your
favorable consideration of this measure.

Lori Lum
808-544-8343
llum@wik.com



4 Ag Hawai'i
Hawai'i Aquaculture &
Aquaponics Association
Hawai'i Association of
Independent Schools
Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council
Hawai'i Farm Bureau
Federation
Hawai'i Farmers' Union
United
Hawai'i Food Industry
Association
Hawai'i Food
Manufacturers Association
Kohala Center
Malama Kaua'i
Maui School Garden
Network
Ulupono Initiative

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 1013 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 8:45AM, Room 312

LATE

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 1013 to restructure the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, attached administratively to the Department of Agriculture.

The Legislative Reference Bureau recently released its update to the 2002 report *Filling the Gaps in the Fight Against Invasive Species*. The 2015 update, *Can't See the Forest for the (Albizia) Trees: An Invasive Species Update*, can be found at: <http://lrbhawaii.org/reports/legrpts/lrb/2015/invasive.pdf>. One of the LRB's recommendations in this new report is that the Legislature consider amending the structure of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) to provide clearer authority to direct interagency coordination and provide resources and support for priority actions necessary in the fight against invasive species. While the HISC has had many successes, we agree that raising the status of the HISC to become the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, including an increased base budget for consistent staffing and programs, would be an important step forward in further addressing Hawai'i's invasive species challenges.

We also note that the LRB's report repeatedly states that a major gap in the fight against invasive species has been insufficient funding for invasive species work on the ground and for the operations and staffing of the HISC. Amongst the LRB's recommendations are a statewide biosecurity plan and for stable—even dedicated—funding to address invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research, and outreach priorities across the state. We agree and are pleased that the Department of Agriculture recently completed a comprehensive biosecurity plan.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Agne Paul Alston Christopher Benjamin Dr. C. Tana Burkert Anne Carter Richard Cooke III Brian Doyle
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**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Agriculture
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Wednesday, February 1, 2017 8:45 am
Room 312

LATE

Support for HB 1013 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1013, which restructures the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture, to coordinate implementation of the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan and to improve coordination of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs, and appropriates funds to implement the authority and relevant interagency invasive species projects.

The proposed restructuring will likely result in better coordination between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and more buy-in on the part of the Department of Agriculture.

Please pass HB 1013. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 5:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: fbrewer@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/31/2017
Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Franny Brewer	Big Island Invasive Species Committee	Support	No

Comments: BIISC is in support of the establishment of a Hawaii Invasive Species Authority.

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Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 5:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: skaye@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM



HB1013

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Springer Kaye	Big Island Invasive Species Committee	Support	No

Comments: The Big Island Invasive Species Committee supports this bill to raise the profile of interagency coordination on invasive species matters, to clarify the critical role of invasive species prevention and management in safeguarding our state's agricultural industries, and stabilize the funding of this key coordinating body. Mahalo for your consideration.

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

LATE

February 1, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1013
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Room 312
8:45 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports a robust Biosecurity Plan, and provides the following comments on HB 1013.

Hawaii agriculture has a long track record of implementing biosecurity measures to protect Hawaii's ecosystem. It was a pioneer in proactive and protective quarantine laws, dating back to 1888, when King Kalakaua signed into law a prohibition on the introduction of coffee trees and shrubs. While addressing natural resources protection (for example, the prohibition of foxes and land crabs), agriculture was a focal point so that diversified crops could be encouraged for commercial production, rather than continue to have Hawaii's people rely on mere subsistence. HFB believes that as we work to improve biosecurity and invasive species management, **biosecurity in relation to agriculture must not be marginalized.**

HFB has long-supported the State's efforts in creating the infrastructure and mechanisms to foster coordination in prevention and control of harmful invasive species. Similar to the goals outlined in this bill, the mission of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HRS 194), created in 2003, is, "...to provide policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful."

HFB also supported the addition and funding of the Biosecurity Chapter (HRS 150A Part VI), updating the Hawaii Quarantine Law, with objectives to (150A-52)

(1) Establish a multi-dimensional system to prevent the entry into the State and interisland movement of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms without a permit; and

(2) Respond effectively to eradicate, control, reduce, and suppress incipient pest populations and established pests and seize and dispose of prohibited or restricted organisms without a permit. [L 2008, c 236, pt of §2]

SB 776 envisions further statutory and regulatory changes. We are hopeful that prior to those changes, a review of existing laws and regulations, and funding mechanisms will be conducted to avoid duplication of efforts and expenditures.

Especially during fiscally challenging times, HFB is a firm believer in collaborative efforts to facilitate implementation of programs. To maximize Hawaii's potential for biosecurity success, we respectfully suggest coordination with experts at USDA, Bishop Museum, UH, and HARC, as well as private organizations with similar goals, in lieu of immediately hiring additional staff for the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this critical issue. Hawaii Farm Bureau is a strong proponent of biosecurity; our farmers and ranchers are at the forefront of the battle with damaging and invasive species, while trying to meet Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability. The challenges of pervasive pests are serious and they are already threatening the viability of sectors of Hawaii's agriculture industry. We respectfully request that the needs of production agriculture and its role in protecting Hawaii from invasive species be recognized and addressed in any new invasive species and biosecurity program.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 6:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: carolyndillon4@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1013 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

LATE

HB1013

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

Testimony for AGR on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Dillon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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