

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 FINANCE**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2017  
12:30 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1339 HD1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1339 HD1. 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 Hawaiian 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  
FINANCE**

**Friday, February 24, 2017  
12:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1339, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

House Bill 1339, House Draft 1 would 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.

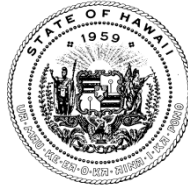
In preparation of an attached agency concept for invasive species coordination, HISC staff conducted a stakeholder survey to gather input on desired components of an enhanced coordinating entity. Stakeholder input was broadly supportive of the HISA concept.

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

With regard to the appropriation amount in this measure for interagency invasive species project needs, the Department notes that the HISC has solicited pre-proposals for Fiscal Year 2018, totaling roughly \$10,000,000. These pre-proposals are available online at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/projects/fy18/>. These critical projects include the maintenance of the Invasive Species Committees for the early detection of and rapid response to invasive plants and insects, maintaining the work of the Hawaii Ant Lab to control little fire ants statewide, and new research and control efforts for Rapid Ohia Death and mosquitoes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**Testimony by:**  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 24, 2017  
12:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 308

**H.B. 1339, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

House Committees on Finance

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill which expands the authority of the existing Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

The DOT finds its membership on this council useful in providing policy level direction, coordination, and planning 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Friday, February 24, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.

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 1339 HD1 – RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1339 HD1 which restructures the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority to coordinate implementation of the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity plan and related duties, and appropriates funds for this purpose.

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 1339. 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 1339 HD1.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:09 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** sue.leeloy@hawaiicounty.gov  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan L.K. Lee Loy	District 3, Hawai'i County Council	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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BIISC  
23 E. Kawili St.  
Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 933-3340  
[biisc@hawaii.edu](mailto:biisc@hawaii.edu)  
[www.biisc.org](http://www.biisc.org)



Hearing: Friday, Feb 24, 2017  
House Finance Committee  
RE: HB1339

Aloha,

BIISC would like to express support for HB1339, restructuring the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority as a first step in implementing a strong state Biosecurity plan, and allocating funds for invasive species control in Hawaii.

Over the last 20 years on the Big Island, we have seen the extreme impacts on our residential life, our agriculture, and our economy from invasive species. It is past time for Hawaii to implement strong biosecurity protections for our state. Solid coordination between state departments is critical to the success of any invasive species response plan. The HISA structure will allow for stronger collaboration both within the state and with our county, federal, and NGO partners.

If one thing is clear from the economic research on invasive species, it is that dollars spent on prevention, early detection, and rapid response are worth hundreds and even thousands more in savings down the line. Each year, the HISC receives far more worthy proposals for invasive species research and control than it can fund. A lack of strong investment early in invasions truly costs our taxpayers, businesses, and farmers: simply ask a Big Island resident about their experiences with albizia, coqui, or little fire ant.

We encourage this legislature to signal the state's commitment to strong biosecurity though the passing of HB1339 into law.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Franny Kinslow Brewer  
Communications Director



The House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance  
February 24, 2017  
12:30 p.m., Conference Room 308  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HB 1339 HD1**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **is in strong support of HB 1339 HD1, *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.

Agencies and non-government organizations have tried for decades to address individual invasive species and impacts, and the underlying issues that continue to place Hawai'i at risk, and there are many successful 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 Interagency Biosecurity Plan creates a solid framework that highlights the most important policy, infrastructure, and resource needs, and yet it will falter without a structure to drive change. Mahalo for your consideration of HB 1339 HD1.

Aloha,  
Christy Martin  
CGAPS





**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 Finance  
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i  
Hearing: Friday, February 124, 2017 12:30 am  
Room 308

Support for HB 1339 HD 1 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1339 HD 1, which restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and related duties, and appropriates funds.

Invasive species and climate change are the most serious threat to our environment, quality of life, and economy. The proposed restructuring will help save wildlife and wild places, help protect agriculture, and support our economy.

Please pass HB 1139 HD 1. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

*Marjorie Ziegler*

Marjorie Ziegler



Invasive big-headed ants attack  
wedge-tailed shearwater chick

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: [info@conservehi.org](mailto:info@conservehi.org) | web: [www@conservehi.org](http://www@conservehi.org)  
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 215 | Honolulu, HI 96814  
President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague  
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton  
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Friday, February 24, 2017 – 12:30 PM - Room 308  
**Agenda #2**

**RE: HB 1339 HD1 - Relating to Invasive Species Program  
Administration – In Support**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

**The Local Food Coalition supports HB 1339 HD1**, which restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and related duties.

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 1339 HD1 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](mailto: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



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7370 Kuamo'o Road • Kapa'a • Hawaii • 96746 • 808-821-1490 • [www.kauaiisc.org](http://www.kauaiisc.org)

February 24, 2017

Testimony of Bill Lucey – Kauai Invasive Species Committee

**Supporting** HB 1339.HD1

House Committee on Agriculture

Chair: Rep. Sylvia Luke & Vice Chair: Ty J.K. Cullen

Friday February 24, 2017, 12:30AM, Room 308

The Kauai Invasive Species committee strongly **supports** HB 1339.HD1 which would Restructure the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) into the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (HISA) as an attached agency to The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

As a coordinating body the HISA would have increased capacity to implement and track progress of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. As an attached agency to HDOA, many of the biosecurity mandates and operations within HDOA's authority would mesh with the various actions outlined in the biosecurity plan. Representation from both the current HISC members and new seats provided to industry, conservation and Native Hawaiian cultural practices will advance pragmatic problem solving.

We feel that this is an innovative change for the future health of Hawaii's land and people building on a collection of agencies that are increasingly effective at stopping costly invasions.

Sincerely,

Bill Lucey  
Project Manager  
Kauai Invasive Species Committee  
University of Hawaii

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 2:57 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** dale@hicattle.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 6:54 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** littlefireanthui@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting H.B. 1339 HD1 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration  
House Committee on Finance  
Friday, February 24, 2017, 12:30PM, Room 308

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*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.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 1339 HD1 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 threats. We agree and are pleased that the Department of Agriculture recently completed a comprehensive [Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan](#) with the support of its many government and non-government partners and that the plan addresses the full range of invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research, and outreach priorities across the state.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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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

February 24, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1339, HD1**  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Room 308  
12:30 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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 interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports the intent of a strong Biosecurity Plan, however, provides the following comments relating to HB 1339, HD1, establishing an Invasive Species Authority.**

The 2016 Legislature required a Plant Quarantine Branch, financial and performance audit; report to 2017 legislature. The preface to HB 1339 does not reference the findings of the audit. It would appear prudent that findings of the audit be reviewed before approving these massive changes to the Invasive Species management program.

Hawaii Agriculture has a long track record of implementing Biosecurity measures to protect Hawaii's ecosystem. It has been a pioneer in quarantine laws, dating back to 1888, when King Kalakaua signed an act to prohibit the introduction of coffee trees and shrubs. While addressing natural resources (prohibition of foxes and land crabs), its mission emphasized agriculture to encourage diversified crops for commercial production instead of simple subsistence. As we embark on this new chapter, the intent of **biosecurity in relation to agriculture must not be marginalized.**

In 2005, the Biosecurity Chapter was added into Hawaii State Law (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]

HRS 150 included funding mechanisms (supported by HFB despite a policy of no new taxes). After its' inception, the number of inspectors increased and interceptions of pests not known to occur in the islands increased. Each year, legislators were informed of activities during the prior year and implementation plans for the new year presented after discussion with Counties and stakeholders. The comprehensive action plan went beyond agriculture including areas such as predator control to protect native plants and animals. See reference: (<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/hpicesu/techr/180/07.pdf>).

This measure proposes regulatory changes. We recommend a review of existing regulations, and funding implementation vs. creation of new regulations and duplicating efforts articulated in current law.

During fiscally challenging times, collaborative efforts will facilitate implementation actions. The measure references hiring of additional staff, rather than looking at USDA, Bishop Museum, UH, HARC as well as private organizations that have similar goals to maximize Hawaii's Biosecurity potential. Commitments to collaborative efforts with existing organizations should be required in statute.

Legislative history, in HRS 150A statute contains the following reference:

"SECTION 13. (a) Between July 1, 2010, and September 30, 2010, the department of agriculture shall adopt new or amend existing rules to impose or increase the fees authorized to be charged under chapter 150A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, without regard to the public notice and public hearing requirements of section 91-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the small business impact review requirements of chapter 201M, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or the limit on fee increases under section 92-28, Hawaii Revised Statutes. **The department shall set the fees at amounts intended to generate, together with the inspection, quarantine, and eradication service fee, sufficient revenues to pay the operation and maintenance costs of implementing the agriculture inspection and biosecurity programs of chapter 150A,** Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the central services and departmental administrative expense assessments of section 36-27 and section 36-30, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As stated, the fees collected should carry out the functions stated in Section 7 of this measure (\$500K for operating expenses and \$10M each year for two years). A review of the fee schedule should be examined as a funding mechanism. Imports with high probability of control measures or have a history of unknown insects entering Hawaii's environment should warrant higher fees. These funds could be used to conduct the research needed for import replacement options. This fund was created to reduce dependence on the General Fund. This measure as drafted depends on the General Fund without addressing how the funds collected will used.

Hawaii Farm Bureau is a strong supporter of Biosecurity. Our farmers and ranchers are at the forefront of the battle while trying to increase Hawaii's goal of increased self-sufficiency and sustainability. The challenges of incipient pests is serious and is threatening sections of the industry. We respectfully request that the needs of production agriculture and its' role in protecting Hawaii from invasive species not be marginalized. Those responsible for protecting Hawaii from invasive species need to

understand the nexus between agriculture and biosecurity. HRS 150A Part VI as written appears to achieve this goal. Careful consideration to improving current statute should be the goal.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

*Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals and serve as a model for integrated green growth*

## Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth

### Board of Directors

### In Support of HB1339 HD1 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration

#### **Deanna Spooner**

Pacific Island Climate  
Change Cooperative

#### House Committee on Finance

24 February 2017, 12:30 pm, Room 308

#### **June Matsumoto**

Pacific Islands Institute

#### **Ka'eo Duarte**

Kamehameha Schools

#### **Matt Lynch**

University of Hawai'i

#### **Mark Fox**

The Nature Conservancy

#### **Mike Hamnett**

Hawai'i Energy Policy  
Forum

#### **Piia Aarma**

Pineapple Tweed Public  
Relations & Marketing

#### **Pono Shim**

O'ahu Economic  
Development Board

#### **Scott Enright**

Department of Agriculture

#### **Scott Seu**

Hawaiian Electric  
Company

#### **Ulalia Woodside**

The Nature Conservancy

#### **William J. Aila Jr.**

Department of Hawaiian  
Homelands

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

**Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports HB1339 HD1** to restructure the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, providing new board seats for non-governmental stakeholders and providing the ability to hire staff to better coordinate interagency programs that implement the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan.

Invasive species are a cross cutting issue that threaten the health of Hawai'i's economy, ecosystems, agricultural production and people. The recent spread of the Little Fire Ant, outbreak of dengue fever on Hawai'i Island and Rapid 'Ohia Death are a couple examples of the severe consequences that invasive species can have. Continued state leadership and funding are essential for rapid, coordinated response to current and future threats.

While the Hawaii Invasive Species Council has been successful, restructuring as an attached authority to the Department of Agriculture would be an important step to elevate this critical issue for increased impact. The Department of Agriculture's broad mandates regarding invasive species and biosecurity make it an appropriate agency for this important statewide priority.

Hawai'i Green Growth partners agreed that biosecurity is an important priority to support implementation on Hawaii's *Aloha+ Challenge* 2030 sustainability goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a joint leadership commitment launched by the State Legislature (SCR69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners. This statewide framework outlines six ambitious 2030 sustainability goals in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resource management, solid waste, smart sustainable communities, and green education and workforce. The Aloha+ Challenge has been recognized nationally and internationally as model that can be scaled to support the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

With leadership and support from the State Legislature, Hawai'i hosted the first U.S. held IUCN World Conservation Congress with over 10,000 global partners from 190 countries in 2016. **HB1339 HD1** is an opportunity to continue important local action on sustainable development and resiliency. As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **HB1339 HD1** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:44 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** zwhitney@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Zoe Whitney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am currently a nineteen-year-old college student who aspires to create environmental solutions like the one provided in this bill. So often, we feel helpless in the face of invasive species. If you are to represent me, a born citizen of Hawaii, please don't pass-up this rare opportunity for sustainable progress.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 6:22 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** zigmundpippin@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
zigmund pippin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need COMPETANT people in a position to manage this issue. So far, those in a position to act on invasives from the government get an F-. Those jokers have let us down for the last time.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:42 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kawehi22@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kawehi Lopez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** clyde\_platt@msn.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clyde Platt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 12:19 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nanjknight42@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Knight	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I Support HB1339 to address the implementation of invasive species control a functioning reality. HB1339 needs to be enacted and funded to meet our urgent need for biosecurity.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 12:15 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** james.b.friday@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James B Friday	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:29 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** bennyjduke@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benjamin Duke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please appropriate funds to control invasive species.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:23 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** tairayoshimura@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Taira Yoshimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 9:16 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** julyhasegawa@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
July Hasegawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:21 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** digdummy@comcast.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Kelly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:18 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rachel.laderman@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel D Laderman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:11 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mappleton90@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/22/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maureen Appleton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** cookiehi1@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marilyn Begg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 10:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** thatgirl1984@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** spencerwillis90@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
spencer	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: please help our island by preventing the invasion of potential pests or diseases before they enter our islands. our flora and fauna are some of the rarest organisms on the planet. how can we not care about protecting our endemic species? according to our legislation as of now we do not. we have an open door that has led to many many problems in the past 20 years including fire ants and ROD. ruining our citizens way or life and potentially killing off our most important species *Metrosideros polymorpha*, 'ōhi'a lehua, how can our lava fields turn back into forest without them? it literally cannot. we need to prevent invasive pests before its too late. how can we sit by as we lose our precious native ecosystems? please allow biosecurity!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:07 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** buckleyw@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bill Buckley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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FINTestimony

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 4:39 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: 32seventytwo@gmail.com  
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**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WENDY K DRESSER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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FINTestimony

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 3:32 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: tektkids4@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*



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Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Laucik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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FINTestimony

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To: FINTestimony  
Cc: tektkids4@gmail.com  
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**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Laucik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 5:45 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: skaye@hawaii.edu  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

**HB1339**

Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Springer Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:17 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: perhansahi@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM\*

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Submitted on: 2/23/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pete Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 10:19 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: rustyinpuna@gmail.com  
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Submitted on: 2/24/2017

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2017 12:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell F. Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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