

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER & LAND & AGRICULTURE &  
ENVIRONMENT**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2017  
2:45 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE BILL NO. 772  
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET**

Chairpersons Rhoads and Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 772. This bill would appropriate general funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to fund the National Wildlife Research Center's assessment of the impacts of the parakeet and develop a control program to reduce the impacts of the parakeet. The department supports this measure.

The department recognizes that rose-ringed parakeet is an environmental pest and agricultural pest. It spreads seeds of noxious weeds into the forests 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony 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 Senate Committees on  
WATER AND LAND  
and  
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, February 10, 2017  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 772  
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET**

Senate Bill 772 proposes to provide funds to support research and control of rose-ringed parakeet on the island of Kauai. **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 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. This funding would support development of a control plan for parakeets and would fund some initial control work under the guidance of this plan.

The Department notes that the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan describes the need for increased research and control of established pests, such as the rose-ringed parakeet, under action item #121 (PosTifs2.3).

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

**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



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February 7, 2017

Testimony of Bill Lucey – Kauai Invasive Species Committee

**Supporting SB 772**

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Chair: Sen. Karl Rhoads & Vice Chair: Sen. Mike Gabbard

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Chair: Sen. Mike Gabbard & Vice Chair: Sen. Gil Riviere

Friday, February 10, 2017, 2:45, Room 224

The Kauai Invasive Species committee **supports** SB 772 which would allocate funding to the Department of Land and Natural resources to assist with and provide supplemental funds to 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.

The Kauai rose-ringed parakeet working group has been working on introducing legislation for three years to address the growing problem of rose-ringed parakeets. Parakeet populations exhibit a slow growth for several years before beginning rapid expansion. Data from the Netherlands recorded a doubling of their population between 2006 and 2010, from 5,000 to 10,000 individuals. The Netherlands population was introduced with a few pet birds in the early 1970'. Similarly, Kauai's population began 1968 with a handful of pet birds.

Kauai is now experiencing the beginning of the rapid growth phase and the population must be controlled before it spreads across the entire island. The damage to agriculture through crop loss has been documented from small back yard growers to large scale seed farms. Tourist and residents in roosting areas are increasingly complaining about noise and feces as roosts expand and birds seek new locations. Though the effects on native birds and plants are less known, there is growing evidence that parakeets are spreading invasive seeds into the forests while destroying native seeds and potentially spreading pathogens and human diseases.

We urge the legislature to act rapidly before the population becomes too large and dispersed to control with the resulting losses to agriculture, tourism and the native environment.

Sincerely,

Bill Lucey  
Project Manager  
Kauai Invasive Species Committee  
RCUH – PCSU - University of Hawaii

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 11:41 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** admin@kauaicountyfarmbureau.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kauai County Farm Bureau	501(c)5 ~ not for profit	Support	No

Comments: Aloha from Kauai ~ Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony via email messaging. On behalf of the Kauai farmers experiencing the effects of the Rose-Ringed Parakeet, I strongly support SB772 and wish to thank you for considering this effort. It is NOT easy to farm here in the State of Hawaii and this invasive species is challenging our efforts to support the Governor in increasing local food production ~ the Rose-Ringed Parakeet are eating our Lychee, Longan, Rambutan, Lilikoi, Mangoes, beans, seed corn, lettuce! Mahalo for your attention to this matter. Laurie Ho, President - Kauai County Farm Bureau

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

February 10, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATE AND LAND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**TESTIMONY ON SB 772**  
RELATING TO ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Room 312  
8:45 AM

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committees:

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 SB 772**, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to assist with and provide supplemental funds to 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.



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Kirby Kester

### Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

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### OUR MISSION

HCIA is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices and build a healthy economy.

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**In Support of SB772  
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER LAND  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
Friday, 02-10-17 2:45pm in Senate conference room 224**

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Rhoads, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization promoting agricultural bio tech to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy state economy.

HCIA is in support of SB772 which appropriates funds to the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture to assist and fund the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) with research of the negative impacts of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai and development and implementation of a control plan to reduce set negative impacts.

The Rose-Ringed Parakeet (RRP) is a substantial threat to agriculture in Hawaii, especially on Kauai. Over the past few years, local farmers have watched as the population of these environmental and agricultural pests have grown. The RRP feeds indiscriminately on the crops of both small and large agricultural enterprises.

RRP's measure approximately sixteen inches long, including tail feathers. Their average single-wing length is roughly 6.5 inches. These birds are most commonly found in flocks containing several dozen, allowing for the quick destruction of an agricultural field.

Secondary to their impact on crops from feeding, the RRP also spread seeds of invasive weeds. Left unchecked, the unwanted weeds lead to lower production yields and a myriad of other negative ecological impacts.

The NWRC has begun research of the negative impacts of the RRP on Kauai. The requested funding will allow them to complete their study and move forward with a much needed control plan to limit the negative impacts produced by these animals.



# HAWAII CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

HCIA respectfully requests that this committee vote yes on SB772 to help local farmers protect their businesses and livelihoods.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Bennette Misalucha**  
Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:44 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:43 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** lho@hawaiiublicpolicy.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter Wiederoder	Dow Agrosience	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2017 6:09 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** gordines@kauaiflowers.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 10:18 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** erinrutherford815@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 4, 2017 11:21 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** lahaina120608@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/4/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helen Lovell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not kill the birds on Kauai. These birds are part of our island. Let them live in peace. They're not the only birds eating crops. Killing them is just wrong. They have a right to live on this earth just as all living animals.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 7:04 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** sarahentm@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I support SB772

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** fu\_dog\_5@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** laurieho1@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Aloha! Thank you for the opportunity to testify via email. I would like to strongly SUPPORT SB772. Mahalo.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:32 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** spitzc001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB772 on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB772**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Feb 10, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Charles W Spitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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