

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**

**MARCH 15, 2017  
8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**SENATE BILL NO. 776 SD2  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES ADMINISTRATION**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 776 SD2. 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.





**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 776, S.D. 2, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM  
ADMINISTRATION.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017                      **TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 312

**TESTIFIER(S):** Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or  
Haunani Burns, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Creagan and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments about this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to restructure the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (Council), into a new entity, the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority (Authority), to be administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture.

There is a concern regarding the bill's definition of "department." On page 4, lines 1-2, the bill defines "department" as "any entity that is represented by a member of the authority." In order to clearly distinguish which members of the Authority are defined as a "department," we suggest adding the word "governmental" to the definition. We recommend that the definition of "department" on page 4, lines 1-2, be amended to read as follows:

"Department" means any governmental entity whose representative or designee is a member of the authority.

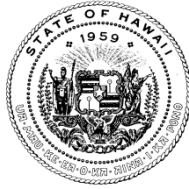
There is also a concern regarding the method by which the Authority adopts a list of invasive species for control or eradication. On page 4, lines 16-20, section -3(a)(2) requires the Authority to "[i]dentify invasive species present in the State and adopt a list of invasive species designated for control or eradication, according to criteria for the designation established by rule, pursuant to chapter 91". To clarify the method by which

the list is created and to provide notice to private property owners that certain pests are important enough that government may need to enter their property for control or eradication, we recommend that section -3(a)(2) be amended to read as follows:

Identify invasive species present in the State and adopt a list of invasive species designated for control or eradication, by rule, according to criteria for the designation established by rule, pursuant to chapter 91.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to comment.

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

March 15, 2017  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 319

**S.B. 776, S.D. 2**  
**RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

House Committees on Agriculture

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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.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

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, March 15, 2017  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 776, SENATE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Senate Bill 776, Senate Draft 2 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. Amendments in Senate Draft 1 would clarify the ability of the HISA to recover expenses of a control effort from a non-compliant property owner who causes such expenses to be incurred. **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 direction 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 entity administratively attached to an existing agency.

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. Support for a stronger interagency coordinating body is also a key recommendation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (2017-2027), which is part of the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative. 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. With regard to the appropriation amount in the measure for operational costs of the HISA, the Department notes that the amount described in the original draft should be sufficient to support the initial establishment of the HISA program.

The Department notes that testimony provided by the Department of the Attorney General on a similar measure, House Bill 1339, may also be relevant for Senate Bill 776. In particular, the Department supports the recommendation of the Department of the Attorney to amend the definition of "department" to read "any governmental entity whose representative or designee is a member of the authority."

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 8:30 a.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

### SB 776 SD2 – RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

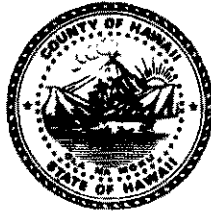
Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 776 SD2, 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 Hawaii 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 SB 776 SD2. 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 SB 776 SD2.

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Wil Okabe  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i  
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy, Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 13, 2017

Representative Richard P. Creagan  
Committee on Agriculture  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Creagan and Members:

**RE: SB 776, SD 2 (restructuring)  
Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration**

I do not have a specific position on SB 776, but would like to thank you and your committee for the focus you have put on invasive species this session.

The Council of Mayors has identified invasive species as a top-priority that deserves all our attention. Even our best efforts are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests, and limited resources make it imperative that we work together in pursuing solutions to what often seem intractable problems.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Harry Kim  
Mayor





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

March 15, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 776, SD2**  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Room 312  
8:30 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 SB 776, SD2.**

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.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 3:22 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** dale@hicattle.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<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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The Nature Conservancy  
Hawai'i Program  
923 Nu'uauu Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Tel(808) 537-4508  
Fax(808) 545-2019  
nature.org/hawaii

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting S.B. 776 SD2 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 8:30AM, Room 312

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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 S.B. 776 SD2 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  
Thomas Gottlieb James Haynes III Sean Hehir Eiichiro Kuwana Duncan MacNaughton Kathy Matsui  
James Polk Jean Rolles Scott Rolles Crystal Rose Dustin Sellers Nathan Smith Peter Tomozawa

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** nredfeather@kohalacenter.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: Absolutely a critical step not only for Hawaii Island who has suffered and continues to be impacted daily by numbers of invasive species that impact our quality of life, our health, and our agricultural and tourist economies but since we know they really can't be contained this is for all islands. The BIISC has done great work in this area, but many more resources and support is needed if we are going to eradicate some species, slow others down, and critically to prevent the spread of species due to our dependence on globalization and imported goods. Mahalo!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 11:16 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<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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*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 SB776 SD2 Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration

**Deanna Spooner**

Pacific Island Climate  
Change Cooperative

**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

### House Committee on Agriculture

15 March 2017, 8:30 am, Room 312

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

**Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports SB776 SD2** 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. **SB776 SD2** is an opportunity to continue important local action on sustainable development and resiliency. As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **SB776 SD2** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.



**Environmental Caucus**  
of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Sarah Worth

Co-Chair of the Natural Resource Management Sub-Committee

March 14, 2017

Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair

Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Committee on Agriculture

SB 776 SD2

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

March 15, 2017 8:30 am State Capitol, Conference Room 312

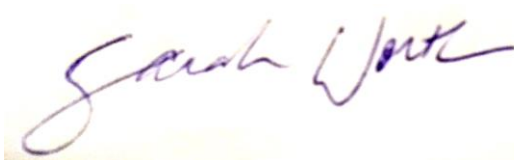
**Submitted on Behalf of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i**

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports the intent of SB 776 SD2 "Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration" in regard to restructuring the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and appropriating funds.

**Addressing invasive species which have a devastating impact on our agriculture, wildlife, and quality of life is one of the legislative priorities of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i for the 2017 Legislative Session.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,



/s/ Sarah Worth (sarahkworth@yahoo.com)

Member of the Natural Resource Management Sub-Committee

**The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii hopes that you will join us in securing an environmentally sustainable future for Hawai'i and its Ohana.**

627 South Street Honolulu, HI 96813

website: hawaiiGREENcaucus.org email: ecodeMHI@gmail.com



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:15 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** launahele@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 10:15 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** christym@rocketmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christy Martin	Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS)	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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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 6:31 PM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:** jamesjtz@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB776 on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM\*

**SB776**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for AGR on Mar 15, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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

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March 14, 2017

TIM VANDEVEER  
Chair

MARGARET WILLE  
SEAN SMITH  
Legislative Affairs Committee Co-Chairs

**SB776 SD2**

**Relating to Invasive Species Administration**

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:30 am State Capitol, Conference Room 312

Representative Richard Creagan, Chair  
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair  
Committee on Agriculture

**Submitted on Behalf of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i**

The Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports SB 776 SD2 "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 SB776 is one of DPH's Legislative Priorities for this 2017 Legislative Session.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

**LATE**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 – 8:30 AM - Room 312

**RE: SB 776 SD2- Relating to Invasive Species Program Administration - In Support**

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

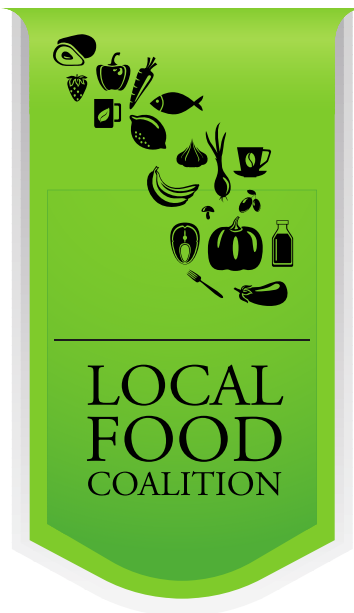
**The Local Food Coalition supports SB 776 SD2**, which restructures the Hawaii Invasive Species Council as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority, administratively attached to the Department of Agriculture to coordinate implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan.

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 SB 776 SD2 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