

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2017RE: H.B. No. 481
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and
Agriculture, to which was referred H.B. No. 481 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to enable the Department of
Agriculture (Department) to implement its little fire ant program
proactively and aggressively by:

- (1) Establishing a Pilot Pesticide Treatment Coupon Project
within the Department's existing little fire ant
program;
- (2) Creating a little fire ant site map for the County of
Hawaii; and
- (3) Appropriating funds for these purposes.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Council
Member representing District 3 of the Hawaii County Council,
Hawaii Farm Bureau, Conservation Council for Hawaii, Hawaii Crop
Improvement Association, Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii
Farmers Union United, Hawaii Pest Control Association, Hawaii
Farmers & Ranchers United, and many individuals supported this
measure. The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species supported
the intent of this measure. An individual opposed this measure.
The Department of Agriculture and University of Hawaii at Manoa



College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources provided comments.

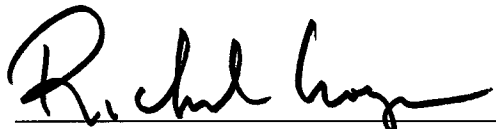
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the \$300,000 appropriation with a blank amount; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to January 28, 2081, to encourage further discussion.

Should the Committee on Finance deliberate this measure further, your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture respectfully request that it consider appropriating \$300,000 for the establishment of the Pilot Pesticide Treatment Coupon Project and the little fire ant site map.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 481, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 481, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy &
Environmental Protection and
Agriculture,



RICHARD P. CREAGAN, Chair



CHRIS LEE, Chair



