

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



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

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

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

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1005
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1005. This bill would provide funding to enhance the biosecurity program to fight incipient invasive pest species. The Department supports this measure provided it does not adversely impact the Department's priorities in the Executive budget.

The Department has been working with freight forwarders, airlines, produce importers, and others to develop inspection facilities, manifesting systems, database sharing and other avenues to enhance the effectiveness of our current biosecurity program. This bill will strengthen our ability to work collaboratively with our partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1005
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

House Bill 1005 proposes to appropriate funds for the detection and control of agricultural pests by the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA). **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 notes that the HDOA Plant Quarantine Branch Biosecurity Program is a critical component of the broader biosecurity system described in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. The Biosecurity Plan includes 96 recommended action items for which HDOA is a lead agency. Item #106 in the Biosecurity Plan (PostTifs 1.3) describes the need to increase the operational capacity of HDOA's Plant Quarantine and Plant Pest Control programs for the detection and control of agricultural pests.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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

LATE

HB 1005 – RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1005, which appropriate moneys to the Department of Agriculture to enhance the biosecurity program by funding invasive incipient species management programs.

Invasive species attacking people, crops and native forests products are an enormous problem in Hawai'i, as evidenced by the recently completed Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan. Prevention, discovery, and eradication of these invaders at an early stage are always the best management options; although the resources required to do this are always a limitation. HB 1005 appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to support these important efforts to battle pest invasions.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1005.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 11:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dale@hicattle.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

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

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

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

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alan@prloffice.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

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

Comments:

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TIM VANDEVEER
Chair
MARIE STRAZAR
Vice Chair

MARGARET WILLE
SEAN SMITH
Legislative Committee Co-Chairs

January 30, 2017

Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair
Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair
House Committee on Agriculture
HB1005

RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 8:45 pm State Capitol, Conference Room 312

Submitted on Behalf of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

The Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports the intent of HB1005 “Relating to Biosecurity” in regard to funding incipient invasive species management programs. **Addressing invasive species problems is one of the Democratic Party’s environmental legislative priorities for the 2017 Legislative Session.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 7:34 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

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

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 10:23 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Warren Watanabe | Maui County Farm Bureau | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 11:11 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mae Nakahata | Individual | Support | No |

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 2:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John R. Gordines | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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LATE

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

Testimony in Support of the Intent of HB 1005

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

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports the intent of HB 1005, *Relating to Biosecurity***. The aim of this measure is to provide funding to better address incipient invasive species. We offer the following comment:

CGAPS agrees that there is a great need for additional funding for work on incipient invasive species, and appreciates the call to reaffirm the importance of addressing invasive species. In addition to this bill, we are supporting the Interagency Biosecurity Plan which offers a holistic, and fairly well-vetted plan for addressing the influx and establishment of new invasive species, and mitigating the impacts posed by established pests that cause unacceptable levels of harm. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 4:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John R. Gordines | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



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

LATE

In Support of the Intent of HB 1005 Relating to Biosecurity

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

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1005, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Agriculture to enhance the biosecurity program by funding invasive incipient species management programs. However, we recommend the following amendments: (1) the appropriation be made to the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council – as opposed to the Department of Agriculture – which in turn, funds the island invasive species committees; (2) the appropriation not be restricted to controlling incipient populations; and (3) the appropriation be used as needed as determined by the council.

Invasive species are the most significant environmental and economic threat in Hawai'i. If you bathe or drink water, you should be concerned about the destruction of essential watersheds on ceded lands. If you care about our native plants and animals and the living native Hawaiian culture, you should be concerned. Invasive species are responsible for the loss of habitat for native plants and animals, and contribute to species endangerment and extinctions in Hawai'i.

Invasive species degrade cultural and public recreation areas, rendering these areas unusable (e.g., invasive strawberry guava in Hawaiian forests). The introduction of biting flies and stinging midges (for example) could destroy our visitor industry.

Experts recommend a minimum investment of \$50 million a year to, essentially, implement the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan. The plan includes the most important actions we can take to prevent invasive species from entering the islands and prevent the spread of invasive species already here.

Unfortunately, the alien species invasion is getting worse. It is amazing how so few people realize this and how relatively little money is appropriated to protect us from invasive species. Please pass HB 1005 with the amendments we recommend above. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Strawberry guava invading native 'ohi'a lehua forest.



Invasive ants attacking wedge-tailed shearwater chick.

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: 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



**Testimony for the House Committee on Agriculture
Hearing on Wednesday, February 1, 2017; 8:45 AM
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 312
By Kelvin Sewake**

LATE

IN SUPPORT OF HB 1005 – RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Aloha Chair and Committee Members:

I am currently the Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Extension in the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. However, I am providing personal testimony on HB 1005.

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony on HD 1005, in which I strongly support the appropriation of money to the Department of Agriculture to enhance the biosecurity program by funding incipient species management programs.

Invasive species entering Hawaii have caused significant damage and losses to Hawai‘i’s economy, agriculture, natural environment, and people’s health and lifestyle. In recent years, the problem seems to have gotten worse with no relief in sight. The Hawai‘i Interagency Biosecurity Plan consists of comprehensive strategies to prevent the introduction of these invasive species and options to mitigate problems caused by these pests that result in tremendous economic losses and human suffering. Funding for this plan is necessary to allow for the implementation of these important management strategies.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration on this matter!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 6:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kcbrock@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

LATE

HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kelsey Brock | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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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

LATE

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

RE: HB 1005 - Relating to Biosecurity – In Support

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

The Local Food Coalition supports HB 1005, which appropriates
moneys to DOA to enhance the biosecurity program by funding
invasive incipient species management programs.

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.

Agricultural operations experience significant losses on a regular
basis due to weather and pests. While there is a focus on protecting
our borders, there needs to be equal emphasis on managing invasive
species present in our state. In particular, there needs to be an
ongoing effort to eradicate and control pests specifically harmful to
agriculture. We support HB 1005 as it provides critical funding to
enhance and strengthen the biosecurity program in regard to
incipient invasive species management programs.

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



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

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

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 1005 Relating to Biosecurity
House Committee on Agriculture
Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 8:45AM, Room 312

LATE

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

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 1005 and its proposed funding for Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's biosecurity program.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive.

Evidence from Hawai'i and around the world shows that preventing new pest establishment is exponentially more economical than eradicating a pest or, even worse, controlling it indefinitely once it becomes established. The HDOA has developed a biosecurity program in an effort to enhance invasive species prevention at air and sea ports with more inspectors, improved inspection facilities and technologies, agreements with importers and producers for improved sanitary protocols, and support for local growers to produce import substitutes.

We also hope that providing the necessary and critical support for HDOA's biosecurity program will be additive and not prevent the Legislature, the Administration and partners from also devoting appropriate attention and funding to the full range of pest issues across the islands as outlined in the comprehensive **Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan**. The Interagency Biosecurity Plan—prepared by the Department of Agriculture with the support of its many government and non-government partners—addresses the full range of invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, research, and outreach priorities across the state. The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council—or the proposed Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority ([HB1339/SB776](#))—is the appropriate multi-agency venue for this broader effort. This approach necessarily results in prioritization based on a variety of issues including human health, safety and well-being, economic harm, and the threat to the health and function of the environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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



LATE

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 1, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1005
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 312
8:45 AM

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

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB strongly supports HB 1005, which appropriates appropriate moneys to DOA to enhance the biosecurity program by funding invasive incipient species management programs.

Pre-entry and post-entry procedures to manage introduction of new pests is often highlighted in the biosecurity plan. Hawaii's agriculture and environment is also threatened by incipient pests that cause significant damage to crops and livestock. Changing weather conditions increase the impact of pest and disease outbreaks while resources addressing the issue dwindle. In certain areas, pesticide registrations are discontinued and tools to combat pests and diseases lost.

Increased agricultural production will require a complete toolkit to manage incipient pest and diseases. Solutions are not just about pesticides but include biological control and cultural practices. Developing these solutions and availing them to our farmers and ranchers is a critical part of biosecurity.

We respectfully request your strong support of this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 10:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: james.b.friday@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM



HB1005

Submitted on: 1/31/2017

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| James B Friday | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I am writing to testify in support of HB 1005 Relating to Biosecurity. As a professional forester, I deal with invasive weed species such as gorse, strawberry guava, and fountain grass constantly. I am also deeply involved in the fight against Rapid Ohia Death. I see how our native trees succumb to invasive insect pests such as the Myoporum thrips attacking naio and the banana moth attacking halapepe. As a homeowner in Hilo I struggle to keep coqui frogs and fire ants off of my land. Better biosecurity will help prevent new and worse pests from becoming established in our islands and will benefit our environment, our industry, and our quality of life.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 6:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: carolyndillon4@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1005 on Feb 1, 2017 08:45AM*

HB1005

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

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

Comments:

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