

**HB 1006, HD1**

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
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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 AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT &  
HIGHER EDUCATION**

**MARCH 20, 2017  
12:30 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1006 HD1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Gabbard and Kahele and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 1006 HD1. This bill provides continued funding to the Hawaii Ant Lab project. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

This project deals directly with education and eradication efforts, where possible, in order to contain and inhibit the movement of the Little Fire Ant into areas around the State where the invasive insect does not currently inhabit. This insect pest is so severe that it has greatly altered the way people and their animals interact with their outdoor environment. The good work of the Hawaii Ant Lab needs continued funding to preserve its efforts to achieve the goals of eradication, where possible, and containment and restriction of the ant pest within those areas that are overwhelmed by the insect. In those places where the ant is fully established, outreach to homeowners and householders on what their options are for managing the pest in and around their homes continues to be a goal of the Hawaii Ant Lab.

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 Senate Committees on  
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
and  
HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Monday, March 20, 2017  
1:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1006, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

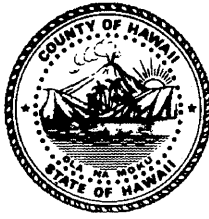
House Bill 1006, House Draft 1 proposes to provide funds to support research and control of invasive ants under the direction of the Hawaii Ant Lab, a project of the University of Hawaii. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this initiative, as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.**

The Department has a long history of working with the Hawaii Ant Lab. The Hawaii Ant Lab employs the foremost experts on the little fire ant and is the lead coordinating entity for little fire ant eradication projects on Kauai, Oahu, and Maui. The Hawaii Ant Lab is also a resource for public education and support in mitigating widespread little fire ant infestations on Hawaii Island. The Department supports the critical work being done by this lab.

The Department notes that the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan describes the need for increased research and control of established pests, such as the little fire ant, under action item #121 (PosTifs2.3). Providing stable funding to the Hawaii Ant Lab is a recommendation of the Biosecurity Plan described by action item #114 (PostTifs 1.11).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Wil Okabe  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i

### Office of the Mayor

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March 16, 2017

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair  
Committee on Higher Education  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, and Members:

**RE: HB 1006, HD 1  
Relating to Invasive Species**

This testimony is in support of HB 1006, HD1, but first I want to thank you for the time and energy that you and your fellow legislators are devoting to invasive species in general, and to little fire ants in particular. The Council of Mayors identified invasive species as a top-priority that deserves everyone's attention. Our best efforts at the county level are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests, and limited resources make it imperative that the State, counties, Feds, and private sector work together in pursuing solutions to what often seem intractable problems.

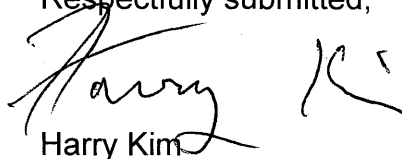
With the possible exception (so far) of the parakeet problem, it seems that Hawaii County has suffered a disproportionate share of the damage caused by invasive species, including rapid ohia death, little fire ants, coqui frogs, coffee berry borer beetle, and probably others. But all our islands, and 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.

Particularly with respect to little fire ants, it sometimes seems that we have thrown in the towel. This must not happen—it is a horrific species that causes great pain

Kahele/Gabbard  
March 16, 2017  
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in humans and has been reported to cause blindness in pets and horses. We have to make the effort to fight back, and HB 1006 seems like a reasonable approach. Please provide as much funding as you can manage, and let's get started.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim", with a stylized flourish to the right.

Harry Kim  
Mayor



**Conservation Council  
for Hawai'i**

*Hawai'i's voice for wildlife*

*Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu*



Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
And Senate Committee on Higher Education  
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i  
Hearing: Monday, March 20, 2017 1:45 pm  
Room 224

Support for HB 1006 HD 1 Relating to Invasive Species

Chair Gabbard, Chair Kahale, Vice Chair Riviere, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1006 HD 1 which appropriates funds to the Hawai'i ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

This dangerous pest harms humans, and babies are especially vulnerable. The ants also sting and can blind pet dogs and cats.

Please consider increasing the proposed allocation of \$360,000 in fiscal year 2017-2018 to support programs to prevent the little fire ant from spreading.

- Little fire ant infestations are widespread throughout the windward side of Hawai'i Island, including in Hilo, the Puna district, and along the Hamakua Coast, and in and around nurseries and properties that purchased plants from infested nurseries. Smaller infestations have been found in the Kailua Kona area.
- On Kaua'i, one infestation is known in the Kalihiwai area.
- On O'ahu, it was first detected in December 2013 in a shipment of hapu'u (tree fern) logs from Hawai'i Island. Numerous additional infestations have been found.
- On Maui, it was first found in Waihe'e in 2009, then in Nahiku in 2014, and in Huelo and Hana in 2015.
- It is not known to be present at this time on Moloka'i, Lana'i, or Kaho'olawe.

Please pass HB 1006 HD 1 and ask for more money for invasive species programs. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

*Marjorie Ziegler*

Marjorie Ziegler



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President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague  
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton  
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





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March 20, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1006, HD1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Room 224  
1:45 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Riviere and Kidani, 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 strongly supports HB 1006, HD1**, which appropriates funds to the Hawaii ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

HFB recognizes the harm that the little fire ant has caused to farms, businesses, and the quality of life of those affected by the pest. We agree that continued measures must be undertaken to stop its spread to other areas.

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

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:56 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** littlefireanthui@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1006 on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM\*

**HB1006**

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for AEN/HRE on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM in Conference Room 224

<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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**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:55 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** gordines@kauaiflowers.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1006 on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM\*

**HB1006**

Submitted on: 3/14/2017

Testimony for AEN/HRE on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM 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:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:38 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** sue.leeloy@hawaiicounty.gov  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1006 on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM\*

**HB1006**

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for AEN/HRE on Mar 20, 2017 13:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Council Woman Sue Lee Loy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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