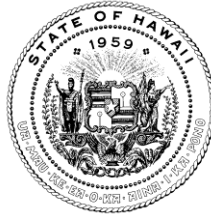


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



**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 Committee on  
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Wednesday, April 4, 2018  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2046, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

House Bill 2046, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to the: 1) Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) for outreach and education efforts in west Hawaii county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants; and 2) Hawaii Ant Lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

The Department is a collaborator on biosecurity issues with HDOA, as described in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. Little fire ant is recognized in the Biosecurity Plan as a serious threat to human health and agriculture in Hawaii, and is primarily managed by HDOA in collaboration with the Hawaii Ant Lab, a project of the University of Hawaii, Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

Providing funds to increase the capacity at the Hawaii Ant Lab is described in Biosecurity Plan action item PosTifs1.11. Passing this measure would directly support implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan. The full Biosecurity Plan is available for review at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/>.

With regard to changes in the Senate Draft 1, the Department notes that the inserted language is similar to that previously found in Senate Bill 2124, which was also supported by the Department. The Department appreciates the broader scope of project support described in Senate Draft 1 of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
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

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

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

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS**

**APRIL 4, 2018  
10:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2046 HD1 SD1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2046 HD1 SD1, which appropriates funds to the Department for outreach and education to West Hawaii county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants. The bill also provides funding for the Hawaii Ant Lab. The Department supports this bill provided it does not impact the Department's priorities listed in the Executive Budget.

Through the Plant Quarantine Branch and Plant Pest Control Branch, the Department works diligently with the Hawaii community to provide outreach and education on various invasive pests. The Department also works closely with the Hawaii Ant Lab, based on Hawaii Island, to provide detection, treatment, and outreach on the little fire ant to both agriculturalists and the public statewide. Resources to provide additional education and support for the Hawaii Ant Lab are critical to increase efforts to mitigate the Little Fire Ant.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:55:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB2046 HD1 SD1** relating to the Department of Agriculture; Little Fire Ants; University of Hawaii; Hawaii Ant Lab; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB2046 HD1 SD1** and supports its passage.

**HB2046 HD1 SD1** is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for outreach and education efforts in West Hawaii county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants, and appropriates funds to the Hawaii ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

The DPH Platform states that "[w]e support adequate resources to address the various invasive species on this island beginning at the point of entry. (Platform of the DPH, P. 3, Lines 112-113)).

Given that **HB2046 HD1 SD1** appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for outreach and education efforts in West Hawaii county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants, and appropriates funds to the Hawaii ant lab for personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: [legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com), Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

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 Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

April 2, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

**Re: HB 2046, HD 1, SD 1 Relating to Little Fire Ants**  
**Hearing Date: 04/04/2018 – 10:30 am; Conference Room 211**

This testimony is in support of HB 2046, HD 1, SD 1.

A year ago, the Council of Mayors identified invasive species as a top priority that deserved 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. This Legislature really stood up last year, and hopefully will do even more this year.

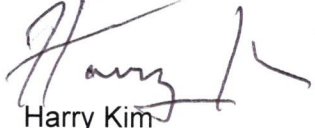
With the possible exception (so far) of the parakeet problem, it seems that Hawai'i County has suffered a disproportionate share of the damage caused by invasive species, including rapid ohia death, little fire ants, coqui frogs, coffee berry borer, and probably others. But all our islands, and all our 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 the State 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 in humans and has been reported to cause blindness in dogs, cats, pigs, and horses. We have to make the effort to fight back, and HB 2046, HD 1, SD 1 would be a big positive step, for both West Hawai'i and statewide. Please provide as much funding as you can manage, broaden the initiative if you think it appropriate, and let's move forward.

April 2, 2018  
Page 2

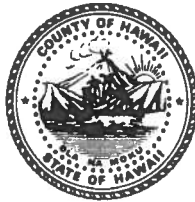
While I would defer to others as to how precious dollars should be allocated, I strongly endorse the investment of funds in combatting little fire ants, and therefore urge passage of HB 2046, HD 1, SD 1.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim", written over a horizontal line.

Harry Kim  
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

DRU MAMO KANUHA  
Council Member  
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267  
FAX: (808) 323-4786  
EMAIL: [dru.kanuha@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:dru.kanuha@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

April 2, 2018

TESTIMONY OF DRU KANUHA  
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON HB 2046 HD 1 SD 1, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, April 4, 2018  
10:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB 2046 HD 1 SD 1, relating to invasive species. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of Governmental Relations and Economic Development Committee.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for outreach and education efforts in West Hawai'i county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants, and for lab personnel and equipment to support mitigation of the little fire ant.

Our best efforts at the county level are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests and limited resources make it priority that counties, State, Federal, and private sectors work together in pursuing solutions to address this. As a county, we do not have the resources or expertise to fight these invaders in our home towns. Little Fire Ants cause great pain in humans and has been reported to cause blindness in dogs, cats, and horses. With continued prevention and eradication efforts and support from the State we can salvage geographic areas and stop further invasion from little fire ants.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the Committee on Ways and Means to support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Dru Kanuha  
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

Committee of Ways and Means  
April 4, 2018  
10:30am Conference Room 211  
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB2046, HD1, SD1

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB2046. Little Fire Ant HUI is a citizen-led advocacy group based in West Hawaii committed to increasing awareness and control of LFA in Hawaii county.

West Hawaii is pervasively infested with LFA yet community awareness and understanding of this serious threat remains extremely low. Many still have never heard of LFA and do not comprehend the importance of taking action, know what to do, or whom to contact should they themselves harbor infestations.

This Bill is essential to providing necessary outreach and staff for this large geographic area. No LFA resources or staff exist on the West Side. Currently, for each outreach or training event Hawaii Ant Lab conducts in West Hawaii they must expend a minimum of 4 hours drive time and a possible hotel overnight for a 2-hour presentation. This is a very inefficient use of staff and funds.

At the same time, new infestations in West Hawaii continue to be discovered at an alarming rate. Capacity must be increased in West Hawaii to address the threat if we hope to manage the risk and prevent its spread up the island chain.

LFA outreach and staff in West Hawaii is absolutely necessary. HB2046 promises a high benefit-cost ratio to address the threat and protect our citizens from LFA harm.

We urge you to pass this Bill. Mahalo for your consideration.

Carolyn Dillon  
Founder - Little Fire Ant HUI





BIISC  
23 E. Kawili St.  
Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 933-3340  
[biisc@hawaii.edu](mailto:biisc@hawaii.edu)  
[www.biisc.org](http://www.biisc.org)



RE: HB2046 Relating to Invasive Species

April 2, 2018

ATTN: Senate Ways & Means Committee – Hearing Wed, April 4 10:30am

The Big Island Invasive Species Committee would like to express our support for HB2046, which would establish an HDOA position in West Hawaii to respond to little fire ant (LFA).

The threat that LFA pose to the environment, economy, and way of life in Hawaii cannot be overstated. Successful treatment in infested areas can take a year or more, and in East Hawaii, where the ants have been established for 30 years, maintaining an ant-free property requires treatment *in perpetuity* as residents must regularly apply barriers and monitor their properties to prevent re-infestation. Already, residents have told us of friends and neighbors who have moved away, unable to live with the constant stings.

A 2015 report by the University of Hawaii predicted that without serious intervention on the Big Island, little fire ants will cost the agricultural industry \$6 billion over the next 30 years. Farmers in Puna report often that they are unable to find workers to harvest when the stinging ants fall from trees onto the faces and the eyes of pickers. LFA carry with them their own food sources: plant pests like aphids, mealy bugs, and whiteflies, a constant bane to farmers and gardeners that bring additional costs for control. In other Pacific islands, farmers have abandoned their ancestral farms due to LFA infestation.

For the last two years, we have provided support and staff to West Hawaii for issues relating to little fire ant. We fear for the coffee industry in Kona, as LFA have begun to take hold of coffee orchards from Holualoa to Captain Cook. With the committed assistance of West Hawaii residents through the LFA Hui, we have pursued an aggressive outreach campaign to alert residents to the threat and hopefully avert complete infestation. However, we are beyond our capacity to provide assistance to meet the level of demand, particularly for farmers and large agricultural operations. West Hawaii is in immediate need of skilled technical assistance dedicated to supporting farmers, nurseries, and public in controlling this dangerous pest.

We strongly support HB2046, and we look forward to collaborating with and supporting this position in West Hawaii to provide a more comprehensive solution to little fire ants on Hawaii Island. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.

Franny Kinslow Brewer  
Communications Director



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

April 4, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2046, HD1, SD1**  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Room 211  
10:30 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, 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 supports HB 2046, HD1, SD1**, which appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for outreach and education efforts in west Hawaii county regarding the detection and treatment of little fire ants.

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 immediate measures must be undertaken to stop its spread to other areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii  
PO Box 632  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

April 2, 2018

Senate Committee / Ways and means

Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair of the Senate Ways and means Committee

RE: HB 2046 Relating to Invasive Species

I am submitting testimony in strong support of HB 2046 Relating to Invasive Species, on behalf of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH) and its Association Member, Hawaii Island Landscape Association (HILA). The Little Fire Ant (LFA) is gaining an ever-expanding foothold in West Hawaii and poses a serious threat to residents and tourists. It is only a matter of time before LFAs infest Oahu which will pose a threat to the entire Hawaii State Visitor Industry.

The appropriation of \$50,000 barely scratches the surface to fulfil the needs for education and treatment. The board of directors of LICH and HILA would respectfully encourage the EEP Committee to consider an appropriation of \$100,000 OR MORE.

Thank you for your efforts to protect our communities from LFAs, surely one of the most dangerous of invasive species to reach our shores.

Sincerely

Garrett Webb

Executive Director / LICH  
Advisor to the Board / HILA

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 12:47:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Redfeather	Testifying for Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments:

West Hawai'i desperately needs funds for LFA outreach, education, and assisting BIISC and HAL, who can't do it all. The East side of Hawai'i Island has succumbed already to LFA impacting daily life for homes (inside and out), outdoor recreation places, pets, children, schools, gardens, agriculture, tourists, orchards, and peace of mind. This will also happen in West Hawai'i but we hope to slow it down, and bring greater awareness, knowledge, and skills to all the residents. Our County has not stepped up to help us. Mahalo Rep. Lowen for your kokua, and deep understanding of the gravity of this problem. I own land here, I have lived here for 40 years, but I'm no longer sure that my children and my children's children will be able to live here in safety with the lifestyle that we all love and cherish. Please help us!

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 9:21:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Y. Wallis	Testifying for Holualoa Machi kumiai	Support	No

Comments:

I am a local Farmer in Holualoa and my neighbors and I have had problems with the fire ant invasion. We definitely need help by way of funding to combat this horrible fire ants. My neighbors have been putting baited traps on thier coffee trees but for my mangoe trees. I can put the traps on the trunks of my large trees. WE need lots of funding to combat this problem for the community and agricultural sustainance of Hawaii county.

Sincerely, Colleen Miyose Wallis

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2018 3:51:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha

It is imperative to pass this. We can't address fire ants in one area, and not another!

Please support this.

Mahalo.

Elizabeth Hansen, Hakalau HI 96710

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 6:34:45 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 12:18:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Sarah Toole, my address is 1128 Ala Napunani St and I am a political science major at UH Manoa.

I support this bill.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 11:29:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:33:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ROBYN E BRICKLAND	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Here in West Hawaii we very much need help in fighting LFA. They are rapidly taking over our environments and this is yet another invasive species that we do not want or need anywhere on this beautiful island. The staff in Hilo are very stretched trying to manage the entire island. It seems imperative that we have a fulltime staff member in Kona to manage the high demand of infestations that are now occurring on this side. Please dont let this situation be another disaster like the coqui frog take-over of our nightly peace and quiet due to insufficient assistance from our lawmakers. LFA are much worse in that they cause human and pet health issues and are disrupting our economy. Please provide funds for a fulltime staff memeber in Kona to help us have a chance at combatting this really bad problem.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:48:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MICHAEL JAMES ALLGAIER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 5:56:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 8:12:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I have lived in Holualoa since 2009. Last month I followed the Department of Agriculture's instructions for testing for the Little Red Fire Ant and recieved a positive ID on the north end of our property. Shortly after collecting my samples in the yard (during which I was only wearing slippers) I developed an extremely itchy patch of raised welts on the top of my foot that lasted for several weeks. I am convinced that it was directly related to the positive fire ant ID.

I have watched an informative video on the Little Red Fire Ant and seen other people's testimonies. Now that I have an idea of how painful the bites can be, I am alarmed that Kona is facing this kind of infestation, and alarmed that more is not being done to stop it. I only experienced the rash on a small part of my foot -- I cannot imagine having it all over the body, as has happened, and can so easily happen, to those who work in agriculture in any way. Or even to those doing regular yard work!

We have started treatment on our property to fight the ant and to try to keep it from taking over. We are prepared to continue treatment for the whole year, as recommended. But the ants are coming from somewhere. What if our neighbors are not as diligent? Or our neighbors' neighbors? It seems clear that this is a problem we will have to continue to address, just as we do the coquis. Except that coquis do not blind pets or cause debilitating rashes inflicted simply from walking through the yard. This is a concern not only for homeowners, whose property values may plummet, but for all of the agricultural industry on the island. Who can handle working in such conditions? Who would risk it? What happens when there is no place without this plague?

It should be common sense that we do all we can collectively to solve this problem. We can start by passing this measure. This isn't simply about an irritating noise, such as the coquis. This can potentially destroy our way of life and our entire agricultural industry. It is not such a little thing we are dealing with.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:36:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please fund LFA education, prevention and eradication. Perhaps we need LFA testing and disclosure requirements for real estate transactions, too. This problem needs to be tackled aggressively. Please consider proactively defending the islands from insipient pests at our ports. That would surely be more cost effective. Thank you.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:47:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please continue to support funding for the West Side to fight the Little Fire Ants. Many of our residents still do not realize the magnitude of threat that these little creatures pose to our way of life and for many, their livelihood. Greater education is needed on the West Side, as well as a processing center on this side if at all possible.

Our keiki deserve a future without the LFA. This issue must not be allowed to slowly evolve into something that we are unable to control. We must use whatever resources are available to educate the general public and help them with extermination. Please help save our paradise.

Sincerely, Tina



**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:51:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support any measures to exterminate the invasive species the Little Fire Ant. I would like to continue to let my kids go and play in the yard. I would like to be able to let the animals go outside without worrying about whether or not they will get bit by the Little Fire Ants. The Little Fire Ant is very dangerous. Immediate action is necessary. Thank you for your support of the West side.

Sincerely, Matthew Rossman

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 1:37:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

By supporting this bill you are supporting a more sustainable Hawaii. By minimizing the threat of invasive species, we protect our quality of life and livelihood, and the unique beauty of our island home.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 8:06:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

We can not drop this bill. I am a 4th generation coffee farmer and have seen the landscape change, this one is no good for anyone, no matter what ones economic status is.

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 9:21:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Hawaii county will be in big trouble if fire ants are not under control. They are not going away, so control is the next best step. We have seen what happens when we wait to take care of problems. This is shown in our situations with coqui frogs, mongoose, coffee borer bugs, rapid ohia death, on and on.

Other islands that have more tourist money take care of the problems and leave us behind. We must be included or this island will become uninhabitable. Do not wait!!

**HB-2046-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 10:20:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please support the bill. Invasion of the Big Island by the Ika is a disaster for people, native plant species and the various livelihoods around our Island. This is a dire situation that is out of control. We desperately need your help to prevent an environmental catastrophe. Please support this bill.

Laurel Schultz

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Captain Cook 96704