

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
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

LATE

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 7, 2018
8:45 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2081
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2081. This bill would appropriate general funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to fund the National Wildlife Research Center's assessment of the impacts of the parakeet and develop a control program to reduce the impacts of the parakeet. The Department supports this measure.

The Department recognizes that rose-ringed parakeet is an environmental pest and agricultural pest. It spreads seeds of noxious weeds into the forests which compete with and often overwhelm the native plants, changing the ecology of the forests. This then has secondary negative impacts on the native birds, insects, bats, etc. In addition, the rose-ringed parakeet feeds on fruit grown in agricultural areas resulting in a negative impact on agriculture production. The National Wildlife Research Center has begun, but has not completed, studies on the impacts of these birds in Hawaii. This funding will continue that research which will be needed to develop effective control measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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 7, 2018
8:45 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2081
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

House Bill 2081 proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to assist the National Wildlife Research Center in developing mitigation strategies for the rose-ringed parakeet. **The Department supports this bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

The Department recognizes that there has been an increase in reports of rose-ringed parakeet flocks on the Island of Kauai and that this species may be a nuisance to farmers. The proposed research by the National Wildlife Research Center would examine whether this species also poses threats to Hawaii's natural resources by feeding on native plant seeds or dispersing non-native plant seeds from low-elevation farms and forests into higher-elevation native forests.

The National Wildlife Research Center began some of this work utilizing funds appropriated by House Bill 655 in 2017. The funds appropriated by this measure would allow the Center to complete the proposed work plan.

The Department notes that the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan describes the need for increased research and control of established pests, such as the rose-ringed parakeet, under action item #121 (PosTifs2.3).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HB-2081

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 3:05:49 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Randall Francisco | County of Kauai | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2081

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:59:05 AM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura | Maui County Council | Support | No |

Comments:

This bill appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

HB-2081

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 12:15:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D. | Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2081

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 4:09:44 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dale Sandlin | Hawaii Cattlemens Council | Support | Yes |

Comments:



Board of Directors

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President

Alan Takemoto

IN SUPPORT OF HB 2081

RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Vice-President

Joshua Uyehara

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

February 7, 2018, 8:45 a.m.

Conference Room 312

Secretary

Dawn Bicoy

Chair Creagan and members of the committee:

Treasurer

Laurie Yoshida

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy state economy.

Directors-at-Large

Adolf Helm

Mark Stoutemyer

Dan Clegg

Gene Harrington

HCIA is in **support of HB 2081**, which appropriates funds to the Hawaii State Department of Land & Natural Resources to assist and fund the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet (RRP) population on Kauai.

President Emeritus

Kirby Kester

Executive Director

Bennette Misalucha

The RRP is a substantial threat to agriculture in Hawaii, especially on Kauai. Over the last several years, local farmers have watched as the population of these environmental and agricultural pests have grown. The RRP feeds indiscriminately on the crops of both small and large agricultural enterprises.

RRPs measure approximately 16 inches long, including tail feathers. Their average single-wing length is roughly 6.5 inches. These birds are most commonly found in flocks containing several dozen, allowing for the quick destruction of an agricultural field.

Secondary to their impact on crops from feeding, the RRP also spread seeds of invasive weeds. Left unchecked, the unwanted weeds lead to lower production yields and a myriad of other negative ecological impacts.

The requested funding will allow the NWRC to conduct their field studies and move forward with a much-needed control plan to limit the negative impacts produced by these animals.

HCIA respectfully requests that this committee vote yes on HB 2081 to help local farmers protect their businesses and livelihoods. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bennette Misalucha
Executive Director, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

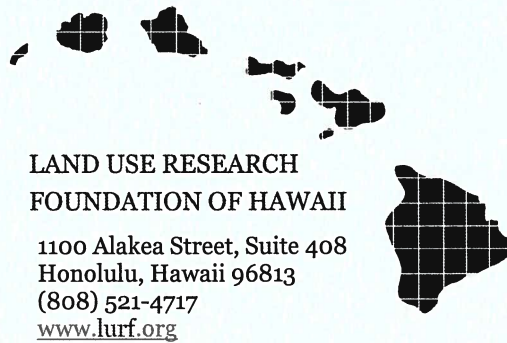
HB-2081

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 12:34:42 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

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

Comments:



LAND USE RESEARCH
FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 408
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 521-4717
www.lurf.org

February 5, 2018

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

Testimony in Support of HB 2081, Relating to Agriculture (Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources [DLNR] to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture [NWRC] to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai).

Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 8:45 a.m., in Conference Room 312

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of HB 2081.**

HB 2081. This bill proposes to appropriate funds to the DLNR to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the NWRC to continue its efforts to manage the population of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai.

LURF's Position. LURF understands that funds already appropriated toward this effort by Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, will be used to support research on damage mitigation and population reduction strategies by the NWRC, including the hiring a director for the study, however, additional funding is required to complete the study and carry out the second phase of the project which entails, amongst other things, conducting pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and developing a management plan to reduce populations of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai.

Invasive species such as birds, insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, tourism, agriculture, the natural environment, native species and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people.

These invasive species already cause millions of dollars in crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of native plants and forests, and the spread of disease, but many more harmful pests, such as the rose-ringed parakeet, now threaten to invade Kauai and wreak further damage.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 2081** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.



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 7, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2081
RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

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.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau is in strong support of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

HFB agrees that we need a cost-effective means to control the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce the potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Greg Askew <GregAskew2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 12:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Mark Phillipson <reelrelaxed@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 12:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Dianne Girard <Dianne.girard@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 1:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Rodney Haraguchi <rodney@haraguchiricemill.org>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 2:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: John Gordines <gordines@kauaiflowers.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 1:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Kylie Matsuda-Lum <kylie@kahukufarms.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 2:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

Although beautiful and appealing, these parakeets are damaging both commercial farmers' crops and backyard growers' orchards on Kauai, especially of lychee, longan, and rambutan.

I believe the state needs a cost-effective solution to control the rose-ringed parakeets on Kauai that will benefit economically important crops, reduce potential for damage to natural resources, and avoid any negative effects on the health and safety of Kauai residents.

I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: steve Stefanko <steveakakafallsfarm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 1:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Randy Yokoyama <rjyoko@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 2:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Susan Mulken <susan@mulkernlandscaping.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 3:08 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite3 - Richard

From: Paula Hegele <paula@mauiwine.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 4:09 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite3 - Richard

From: Joni Kamiya <Jonikamiya@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 9:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite3 - Richard

From: Jeffrey McCall <mccalljeffreyw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 8:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

decoite2 - Amanda

From: Richard Ogoshi <ogoshi@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 8:53 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081



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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!

From: Jerry Ornellas <jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 8:57 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT HB 2081



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

I stand in strong SUPPORT of HB 2081, which appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai.

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I therefore respectfully request your strong support of this measure to control the growing rose-ringed parakeet population in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony on this measure.

Mahalo!



**Testimony to the House Committee on
Agriculture
Wednesday, February 7, 2018 8:45 a.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 312**

LATE

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 2081 RELATING TO RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Dear Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

The Kaua'i Chamber of Commerce supports passage of Bill 2081 relating to the rose-ringed parakeet. These birds continue to wreak havoc on Kaua'i. Their every expanding numbers only mean more property and crop damage and loss of native bird habitat in the future. The detrimental economic effects of the parakeet cannot be overstated.

On Kaua'i, resident and visitor complaints have increased in association with the noise from the parakeets. The birds also represent a potential vector of various pathogens and disease (e.g. avian flu, avian malaria, salmonella) that could be passed to humans, pets, and native wildlife through direct contact or in association with droppings below roosting and foraging sites.

The rose-ringed parakeet remains a significant issue for farmers and the visitor industry. The parakeets are damaging corn crops, lychee, and rambutan. Hoteliers, facing mounting complaints from their guests, are forced to allocate resources in order to mitigate problems associated with the bird.

For those reasons, we support HB 2081.

The Kaua'i Chamber of Commerce has served Kauai's diverse business community since 1913. Our mission is to promote, develop and improve commerce, quality growth and economic stability in the County of Kaua'i. We boast an active membership of more than 800 businesses and professional women and men representing 400 Kaua'i firms who give freely of their time and talents to advance the commercial, financial, industrial, civic and social well-being of the County of Kaua'i and the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for considering the views of the Kaua'i Chamber as you deliberate on this important subject.

HB-2081

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 3:53:54 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ronald Weidenbach | Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association | Support | No |

Comments:

Control of this invasive agricultural pest is needed to limit further range expansion and industry impact.

HB-2081

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:06:00 PM

Testimony for AGR on 2/7/2018 8:45:00 AM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| John R. Gordines | Kauai County Farm Bureau | Support | Yes |

Comments:

Kauai County Farm Bureau

Re: Chair Creagan and Vice Chair DeCoite

House Committee on Agriculture

HB 2081

The Kauai County Farm Bureau supports the passage of HB 2081 relating to the Red Rose Ringed Parakeet (RRRP). The RRRP has continued to affect Kauai farmers and they are taking a financial loss due to the aggressive feeding and roosting habits of the parakeets.

The visitor industry is also being affected by the loud volume and nuisance that they are displaying at the visitor destinations not to mention the health hazards of their waste.

They are also becoming a threat to our native birds, their food and nesting sites.

This is a major problem that is escalating very rapidly.

Kauai County Farm Bureau has over 300 members and we encourage you to approve funding for continued research and most importantly eradication!

Respectfully,

John R. Gordines

President

Kauai County Farm Bureau