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LATE

February 23, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 2124
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Room 211
11:00 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 SB 2124, 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 this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 3:30:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ursula Snover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

in my small community there are meanwhile 3 groups of neighbors battling LFA - guided by BIISC who based their program on the Ant Lab's research - and we all seeing less and less LFA on our properties.

It is crucial to allow the funds as the ants keep proliferating and impacting our lives so negatively.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ursula Snover

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 4:17:26 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii Ant Lab (HAL) has helped me navigate Little Fire Ant problems for me. I can not imagine HAL not receiving more financial help as this is now a entire state issue and they are the world wide experts. Biosecurity is a MUST! Invasives species harm native species, locals and tourists, economy. What kind of world will you leave our children? Mahalo

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 6:58:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spencer Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Little fire ants threaten us every day here on the Big Island. They threaten our pets, they threaten our keiki, they threaten our workers, they threaten our agriculture, they threaten our economy. If you don't have them where you are, you should be doing everything in your power to keep it that way. The Hawai'i Ant Lab has been doing phenomenal work developing ways to contain and kill these little nightmares. I have been a direct beneficiary of their research, as have a great many Big Island residents. These guys are the brain trust in the war to defeat little fire ants, and they will be the best hope to keep LFAs from turning your neighborhood into a den of never-ending pain. Please lend your support to SB 2124, and please support our fight against little fire ants!

Sincerely,

Spencer Kaleo Wright, Mountain View, Hawai'i Island

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 8:52:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Rounds	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 7:26:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pierre fichefeux	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need more support for Hawaii Ant Lab as Little Fire Ants are now an all over the island, making it difficult to harvest and prune. Invasive Species effect native species, farming, tourisme etc. We have a chance to tackle the probleme now and leave a better land for our children.

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 8:54:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Werner Thie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

With Little Fire Ants now being an all island issue Ant Lab needs more funding. We all fear invasive species, specially this particular pest which might easily render a farm inhabitable for years. We all are affected, be it locals or tourists and fighting Little Fire Ants is not only crucially important for us but even more for our children.

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 4:55:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Hale	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the funding of efforts to mitigate the spread of the destructive Little Fire Ant. I am a public school teacher and a coffee farmer. The LFA poses a huge threat to our economy in terms of agriculture and tourism. Please support our attempts to mitigate the destruction this invasive species is already wreaking island wide.

Mahalo,

Chris Hale

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 9:05:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Akiko Cutlip	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 7:44:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion McHenry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 8:30:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adrienne Hale	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill that will help our community further our efforts in the LFA eradication. In order to preserve our farms, livelihoods, economy, the beauty that is our home, and our future, please support this bill.

LATE

SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 9:33:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
noriko donna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Fire Ants have become a serious problem in the Kona area. I support the bill that helps fight the invasive species and protect our community and the agriculture that support us.

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SB-2124

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 9:29:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gil Solomon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It would seem clear this bill SB2124 is fully vested in the interest of everyone living on the Big Island and should have the full support of the legislative group