
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that mosquitos are an
2 alien species in Hawaii and were introduced to the Hawaiian
3 archipelago in the late 1800s. Mosquitos are also considered
4 vectors of diseases that negatively affect humans and wildlife.
5 Without sufficient eradication efforts, mosquito-borne disease
6 such as dengue fever and Zika virus are likely to become
7 established in Hawaii. Additionally, avian malaria has
8 decimated the native bird population throughout the range of the
9 mosquito. Unfortunately, as the Earth's climate warms,
10 mosquitos will be able to survive at higher altitudes delivering
11 disease more easily to humans, and Hawaii's native birds will
12 continue to lose survivable habitat as mosquitos move mauka.

13 Eliminating mosquitos is a critical element of protecting
14 public health and restoring the original habitat of Hawaii's
15 native birds. Mosquito eradication techniques, including
16 introducing genetically-engineered mosquitoes to disrupt
17 breeding and reproduction cycles, have been developed and tested



1 in multiple mosquito-affected regions of the world. Locally,
2 the University of Hawaii, in partnership with the department of
3 land and natural resources division of forestry and wildlife and
4 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service have researched
5 mosquito control technologies that could potentially benefit
6 both native wildlife and human health in Hawaii. Researchers
7 have adapted safe, targeted, and efficient technologies of
8 mosquito control to reduce the population of disease-carrying
9 mosquitos. Similar technologies are already in use to control
10 fruit fly pests in Hawaii.

11 The purpose of this Act is to eradicate mosquitoes from
12 Hawaii to protect public health, native species, and way of life
13 by providing funds to the University of Hawaii to scale up
14 research, coordinate with appropriate state agencies, and
15 develop a plan to be implemented for the statewide eradication
16 of mosquitoes.

17 SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii shall scale up
18 research, coordinate with appropriate state agencies, and
19 develop a plan to be implemented for the eradication of
20 mosquitoes in the State.



1 (b) The University of Hawaii shall submit an annual report
 2 on its plan to eradicate mosquitos in the State and progress in
 3 implementing the plan to the legislature no later than twenty
 4 days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2020 and
 5 2021.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
 9 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 10 2020-2021 for the University of Hawaii to research and develop a
 11 statewide mosquito eradication plan.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
 13 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 1546

Report Title:

Mosquito Eradication; UH; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii to develop a plan to be implemented for the statewide eradication of mosquitos.
Appropriates funds.

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