
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII TOURISM
AUTHORITY TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE PROCESSING OF
STATE OF HAWAII PLANT AND ANIMAL DECLARATION FORMS,
INCLUDING THE COSTS INVOLVED, AND CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO
REVIEW THE EFFICACY OF SUCH FORMS.

1 WHEREAS, section 150A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
2 all passengers upon arrival to Hawaii to complete a State of
3 Hawaii plant and animal declaration form; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration
6 form requires information on the importation of plants and
7 animals, as well as statistical information on visitors and
8 residents; and
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10 WHEREAS, inspections of passengers' bags for possible
11 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii are conducted by
12 federal agencies, namely the United States Department of
13 Agriculture and Transportation Security Administration prior to
14 passengers' departure from the mainland and Customs and Border
15 Control, in the case of passengers departing from international
16 locations, upon arrival in Hawaii; and
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18 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration
19 form and amnesty bins at the airports are the only means by
20 which the state Department of Agriculture regulates the
21 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii; and
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23 WHEREAS, without enhanced enforcement of importation
24 restrictions, passengers could be knowingly or unknowingly
25 importing prohibited plants and animals that pose a threat to
26 Hawaii's delicate ecosystem; and
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28 WHEREAS, information collected from the State of Hawaii
29 plant and animal declaration form is reportedly processed and
30 used by the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism



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1 Authority, and this body finds that more detailed information on
2 the processing and use of data collected may present
3 opportunities to glean additional insights or increase the cost-
4 effectiveness of the process; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
8 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Agriculture
9 and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are requested to submit a
10 report on the processing of the State of Hawaii plant and animal
11 declaration form to the Legislature no later than twenty days
12 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include:
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- 16 (1) A description of the use of information obtained from
17 the forms;
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19 (2) The costs associated with the forms, including but not
20 limited to costs for printing, processing, and
21 distributing the forms and personnel costs for
22 processing information obtained through the forms;
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- 24 (3) The number of staff assigned to review the forms;
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- 26 (4) The method by which the forms are disposed;
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- 28 (5) How often forms require a follow-up;
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- 30 (6) The effectiveness of the forms;
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- 32 (7) The level of compliance by passengers and carriers;
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- 34 (8) The number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure
35 to complete the form; and
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- 37 (9) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii
38 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the
39 forms; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture,
42 in collaboration with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, is requested



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1 to convene a task force to review the efficacy of the State of
2 Hawaii plant and animal declaration forms; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to one
5 representative each from the Department of Agriculture and the
6 Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Chairperson of the Board of
7 Agriculture is requested to include the additional following
8 members of the task force:
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- 10 (1) One representative of the department of
11 transportation;
- 12 (2) One representative of the University of Hawaii College
13 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
- 14 (3) One representative of the Hawaii Invasive Species
15 Council;
- 16 (4) One representative of the Sierra Club of Hawaii;
- 17 (5) One representative of the Airlines Committee of
18 Hawaii; and
- 19 (6) One representative of the International Longshore and
20 Warehouse Union, Local 142; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
22 review:
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- 24 (1) The relevance and usefulness of the State of Hawaii
25 plant and animal declaration forms;
- 26 (2) Possible improvements that may be made to the forms;
27 and
- 28 (3) Ways in which the enforcement of passengers'
29 completion of the forms may be increased; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
33 Board of Agriculture, Director of Transportation, President and
34 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Dean of
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1 the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and
2 Human Resources, Department of Land and Natural Resources
3 Invasive Species Coordinator, Chair of the Executive Committee
4 of the Sierra Club of Hawaii, Chair of the Airlines Committee of
5 Hawaii, and President of the International Longshore and
6 Warehouse Union, Local 142.

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OFFERED BY:

De Ht

Ch Todd

S. G. A.

Ch. A.

FEB 25 2019

