
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.

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



1 used by the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism
2 Authority; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that more detailed
5 information on the processing and use of data collected from the
6 State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form may present
7 opportunities to glean additional insights or increase the cost-
8 effectiveness of the process; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
12 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Agriculture
13 and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are requested to submit a
14 report on the processing of the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal
15 Declaration Form to the Legislature no later than twenty days
16 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include:

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- 20 (1) A description of the use of information obtained from
- 21 the forms;
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- 23 (2) The costs associated with the forms, including but not
- 24 limited to costs for printing, processing, and
- 25 distributing the forms and personnel costs for
- 26 processing information obtained through the forms;
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- 28 (3) The number of staff assigned to review the forms;
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- 30 (4) The method by which the forms are disposed;
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- 32 (5) How often forms require a follow-up;
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- 34 (6) The effectiveness of the forms;
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- 36 (7) The relevance and usefulness of the data relating to
- 37 the visitor and returning-resident component of the
- 38 form;
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- 40 (8) The level of compliance by passengers and carriers;



1 (9) The number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure
2 to complete the form; and
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4 (10) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii
5 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the
6 forms; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
10 Board of Agriculture, Director of Transportation, President and
11 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority,
12 Department of Land and Natural Resources Invasive Species
13 Coordinator, and Chair of the Airlines Committee of Hawaii.

