

---

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE IN THE COUNTY OF HAWAII  
TO PRIORITIZE THE CONTROL OF HIGH-THREAT INVASIVE SPECIES.

1           WHEREAS, the invasion of Hawaii by insects, disease-bearing  
2 organisms, snakes, weeds, and other pests is the single greatest  
3 threat to the State's economy and natural environment and the  
4 health and lifestyle of the people of Hawaii; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, pests already cause millions of dollars in crop  
7 losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction of  
8 native forests, and the spread of disease, but many more harmful  
9 pests now threaten to invade Hawaii and cause more damage; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, stopping the influx of new pests and containing  
12 their spread are essential to the State's current and future  
13 well-being; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
16 Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the Big Island Invasive  
17 Species Committee have made efforts to control high-threat  
18 invasive species throughout the County of Hawaii, especially to  
19 control miconia, a fast-growing weedy tree that can increase  
20 erosion and landslides due to its shallow root system; and  
21

22           WHEREAS, large infestations of miconia are on the windward  
23 side of the Island of Hawaii with a smaller population on the  
24 leeward side, posing a threat to the local environment, cultural  
25 practices, and economy; now, therefore,  
26

27           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
28 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
29 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land and



1 Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife is  
2 encouraged to:

3

4 (1) Prioritize the control of high-threat invasive  
5 species, like miconia, and prevent these species from  
6 negatively impacting the environment and economy in  
7 the County of Hawaii; and

8

9 (2) Prioritize the control of high-threat invasive species  
10 for the farming sector and conservation sector of each  
11 county; and

12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
15 Board of Land and Natural Resources.

