

FEB 08 2019

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# SENATE 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  
9

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  
17

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



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,

5  
6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
7 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
8 Representatives 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:

- 15  
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;  
23  
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  
36  
37 (9) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii  
38 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the  
39 forms; and  
40

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;
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  - 13 (2) One representative of the University of Hawaii College  
14 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
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  - 16 (3) One representative of the Hawaii Invasive Species  
17 Council;
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  - 19 (4) One representative of the Sierra Club of Hawaii;
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  - 21 (5) One representative of the Airlines Committee of  
22 Hawaii; and
  - 23
  - 24 (6) One representative of the International Longshore and  
25 Warehouse Union, Local 142; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
28 review:

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- 30 (1) The relevance and usefulness of the State of Hawaii  
31 plant and animal declaration forms;
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  - 33 (2) Possible improvements that may be made to the forms;  
34 and
  - 35
  - 36 (3) Ways in which the enforcement of passengers'  
37 completion of the forms may be increased; and
  - 38

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
41 Board of Agriculture, Director of Transportation, President and  
42 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: Anna Mercado K.

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