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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, and requests 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 upon  
12 the passengers' arrival in Hawaii from the mainland and  
13 international locations; and  
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15          WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration  
16 form and amnesty bins at the airports are among the multiple  
17 means by which the Department of Agriculture regulates the  
18 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii; and  
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20          WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine  
21 Branch inspects regulated commodities at all ports of entry into  
22 Hawaii; and  
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24          WHEREAS, without enhanced enforcement of importation  
25 restrictions, passengers could be knowingly or unknowingly  
26 importing prohibited plants and animals that pose a threat to  
27 Hawaii's delicate ecosystem; and  
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1 WHEREAS, information collected from the State of Hawaii  
2 plant and animal declaration form is reportedly processed and  
3 used by the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism  
4 Authority, and this body finds that more detailed information on  
5 the processing and use of data collected may present  
6 opportunities to glean additional insights or increase the cost-  
7 effectiveness of the process; now, therefore,  
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
10 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
11 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Agriculture  
12 and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are requested to submit a  
13 report on the processing of the State of Hawaii plant and animal  
14 declaration form to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
15 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include:  
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- 19 (1) A description of the use of information obtained from  
20 the forms;  
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- 22 (2) The costs associated with the forms, including but not  
23 limited to costs for printing, processing, and  
24 distributing the forms and personnel costs for  
25 processing information obtained through the forms;  
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- 27 (3) The number of staff assigned to review the forms;  
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- 29 (4) The method by which the forms are disposed;  
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- 31 (5) How often forms require a follow-up;  
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- 33 (6) The effectiveness of the forms;  
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- 35 (7) The level of compliance by passengers and carriers;  
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- 37 (8) The number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure  
38 to complete the form; and  
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- 40 (9) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii  
41 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the  
42 forms; and



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 2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture,  
 3 in collaboration with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, is requested  
 4 to convene a task force to review the efficacy of the State of  
 5 Hawaii plant and animal declaration forms; and

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 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to one  
 8 representative each from the Department of Agriculture and the  
 9 Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Chairperson of the Board of  
 10 Agriculture is requested to include the additional following  
 11 members of the task force:

- 12  
 13 (1) One representative of the Department of  
 14 Transportation;  
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 16 (2) One representative of the Department of Business,  
 17 Economic Development, and Tourism;  
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 19 (3) One representative of the University of Hawaii College  
 20 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;  
 21  
 22 (4) One representative of the Hawaii Invasive Species  
 23 Council;  
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 25 (5) One representative of the Sierra Club of Hawaii;  
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 27 (6) One representative of the Airlines Committee of  
 28 Hawaii; and  
 29  
 30 (7) One representative of the International Longshore and  
 31 Warehouse Union, Local 142; and  
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 34 review:

- 35  
 36 (1) The relevance and usefulness of the State of Hawaii  
 37 plant and animal declaration forms;  
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 39 (2) Possible improvements that may be made to the forms;  
 40 and  
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1 (3) Ways in which the enforcement of passengers'  
2 completion of the forms may be increased; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
6 Board of Agriculture; Director of Transportation; Director of  
7 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; President and Chief  
8 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Dean of the  
9 University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human  
10 Resources; Department of Land and Natural Resources Invasive  
11 Species Coordinator; Chair of the Executive Committee of the  
12 Sierra Club of Hawaii; Chair of the Airlines Committee of  
13 Hawaii; and President of the International Longshore and  
14 Warehouse Union, Local 142.  
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