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GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE  
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, March 1, 2019  
1:20 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 20/SENATE RESOLUTION 15  
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**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 20/Senate Resolution 15 requests that the Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the Hawaii Tourism Authority provide a report on the use of the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.**

The Department partners with the DOA on a number of invasive species and biosecurity efforts and understands that the use of the Plant and Animal Declaration Form is a primary source of information regarding the introduction of nonnative species into Hawaii. The Department also notes that this form has an educational value in informing incoming passengers regarding Hawaii's import restrictions and demonstrating that the State takes biosecurity seriously.

The Department is a collaborator with DOA in the development and implementation of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, which has the primary purpose of identifying and addressing capacity needs in funding, personnel, infrastructure, and policy regarding Hawaii's biosecurity and invasive species programs. The report described by this measure would provide a description of capacity needs related to the processing of forms and could contribute to efforts to increase capacity related to this important biosecurity function. The Department is supportive of the production of this report and the creation of the task force described in the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.



## O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, March 1, 2019

TIME: 1:20 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 224, State Capitol

RE: SCR 20 and SR 15, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII`I TOURISM AUTHORITY TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE PROCESSING OF STATE OF HAWAII`I PLANT AND ANIMAL DECLARATION FORMS, INCLUDING THE COSTS INVOLVED, AND CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE EFFICACY OF SUCH FORMS

To the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair; the Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

My name is Melodie Aduja and I serve as Chair of the O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i ("DPH"). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony on SCR 20 and SR 15. The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities ("OCCLP") hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SCR 20 and SR 15, Requesting the Department of Agriculture and Hawai`i Tourism Authority to Report to the Legislature on the Processing of State of Hawai`i Plant and Animal Declaration Forms, including the Costs involved, and Convene a Task Force to Review the Efficacy of such Forms.**

SCR 20 and SR 15 provide that the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are requested to submit a report on the processing of the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration form to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and that the report include: a description of the use of information obtained from the forms; the costs associated with the forms, including but not limited to costs for printing, processing, and distributing the forms and personnel costs for processing information obtained through the forms; the number of staff assigned to review the forms; method by which the forms are disposed; often forms require a follow-up; effectiveness of the forms; level of compliance by passengers and carriers; number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure to complete the form; and whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the forms. Further, the Department of Agriculture, in

collaboration with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, is requested to convene a task force to review the efficacy of the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration forms.

We support adequate resources to address the various invasive species on this island beginning at point of entry. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 9, ln. 43-44.*

For the foregoing reasons, to wit, to protect the people of Hawai'i and their property against various invasive species on this island beginning at point of entry, OCCLP supports SCR 20 and SR 15, and urges their passage out of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment.

Mahalo nui loa  
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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**David Y. Ige**  
*Governor*

**Chris Tatum**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Statement of  
**CHRIS TATUM**

Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Friday, March 1, 2019  
1:20pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room #224

In consideration of  
**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 20 AND SENATE RESOLUTION 15**

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Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment: The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** the intent of Senate Concurrent Resolution 20 and Senate Resolution 15, which requests the Department of Agriculture and the Hawai'i Tourism Authority to report to the legislature on the efficacy of the State of Hawai'i Plant and Animal declaration forms.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority, through funding received by the legislature, has supported the printing, distribution, collection and collation of these critical forms for many years. These forms, in addition to assisting the State of Hawai'i in its efforts to curtail the unintentional introduction of invasive species to our beautiful islands, also provide the State with invaluable information related to tourism. This data is provided to the HTA after the Department of Agriculture has completed their review, analysis and action to enforce their component. We welcome the opportunity to participate in the taskforce as described in these resolutions.

We would humbly request that the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBEDT) be added to the list of participants in the taskforce. The addition of the Research Division and potentially other resources within DBEDT would be extremely valuable in the development of the work products identified in the resolutions.

It is for these reasons that the HTA **supports** Senate Concurrent Resolution 20 and Senate Resolution 15. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony on these resolutions.



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March 1, 2019

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**TESTIMONY ON SCR 20 / SR 15**

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.

Room 224  
1:20 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SCR 20 / SR 15**, which request 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.

Invasive species have become one of the most challenging problems impacting Hawaii. Many invasive species are damaging Hawaii's environment and the state's economy. Agriculture has a vested interest in this matter. Agriculture is one of the major casualties when invasive species are introduced. Every year, numerous new pests are introduced into the State, such as the coqui frog, coffee berry borer, axis deer, macadamia felted coccid, little fire ant, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle, and varroa mite, to name a few.

In the 2002 LRB study on invasive species, it was reported that the estimated cost of financing all invasive species programs was \$50 million. The report estimated that the lost revenue to agriculture was \$300 million per year. It also states that the invasion of unwanted pests has the potential to economically devastate the State by keeping tourists

away from the island and that invasive species can affect tourism indirectly by altering or displacing Hawaii's environmental assets.

HFB supports this measure which seeks to improve the ways to protect the people, environment, and agriculture.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.