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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that responding quickly  
2 to newly detected invasive species often prevents the species  
3 from becoming firmly established, thus saving taxpayers money in  
4 the long term. State agencies currently lack the resources and  
5 response mechanisms to deal with newly identified threats from  
6 invasive species and may be missing opportunities to eliminate  
7 them. Delays may allow invasive species to become established  
8 in the State, and consequently, may make mitigation efforts more  
9 protracted and expensive.

10           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create a rapid  
11 response mechanism for invasive species so that newly detected  
12 threats may be immediately addressed.

13           SECTION 2. Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16           "§194-\_\_\_\_\_ Invasive species rapid response special fund.

17           (a) There is established the invasive species rapid response



1 special fund, into which shall be deposited appropriations by  
2 the legislature for the purposes of mitigating or eradicating  
3 newly detected invasive species threats in the State. All  
4 interest earned or accrued on money deposited into the fund  
5 shall become part of the fund. The council shall administer the  
6 special fund and may expend money from the special fund in  
7 accordance with this section.

8 (b) If the council determines that one or more newly  
9 detected invasive species poses a substantial threat to the  
10 agriculture, commerce, economy, environment, or public health of  
11 the State or otherwise warrants immediate action, the council  
12 shall submit a request to the governor to declare that there  
13 exists an invasive species emergency.

14 (c) Upon declaration by the governor pursuant to  
15 subsection (b) that an invasive species emergency exists, the  
16 council may act in response to the emergency and may make  
17 expenditures from the fund without legislative approval and  
18 without regard to chapters 36, 37, 89, and 103D.

19 (d) The council shall make an account of money expended  
20 from the fund and include that information in its annual report  
21 to the legislature."



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
4 deposit into the invasive species rapid response special fund.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
6 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;  
9 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; Mitigation; Special Fund; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the invasive species rapid response special fund.  
Establishes procedures for emergency declarations and  
expenditures. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

