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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 the invasion of  
2 Hawaii by insects, disease-bearing organisms, snakes, weeds, and  
3 other pests is the single greatest threat to the State's economy  
4 and natural environment and to the health and lifestyle of the  
5 people of Hawaii. Pests already cause millions of dollars in  
6 crop losses, the extinction of native species, the destruction  
7 of native forests, and the spread of disease, but many more  
8 harmful pests now threaten to invade Hawaii and cause more  
9 damage. Stopping the influx of new pests and containing their  
10 spread are essential to the State's current and future well-  
11 being.

12           The legislature further recognizes the efforts made by the  
13 department of land and natural resources' division of forestry  
14 and wildlife, Maui branch, and the Maui invasive species  
15 committee to control high-threat invasive species throughout  
16 Maui county, especially efforts in east Maui to control miconia,  
17 a fast-growing weedy tree that can increase erosion and



1 landslides due to its shallow root system. It is estimated that  
2 approximately 37,000 acres throughout east Maui could contain  
3 miconia, which poses a threat to the local environment, cultural  
4 practices, and economy.

5 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for:

- 6 (1) Establishment of invasive species technician positions  
7 for the department of land and natural resources'  
8 division of forestry and wildlife in east Maui to  
9 control invasive species, like miconia, from  
10 negatively impacting the environment and economy;
- 11 (2) Efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate the  
12 problem of invasive species in the county of Maui; and
- 13 (3) Activities relating to the proper management, but not  
14 eradication, of the axis deer population in Maui  
15 county.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
19 establishing five permanent full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE)  
20 invasive species technician positions at the department of land



1 and natural resources' division of forestry and wildlife, Maui  
2 branch, to address invasive plants and animals in east Maui.

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

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
8 efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate invasive species  
9 in the county of Maui.

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

12 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,500,000 or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
15 activities relating to the proper management, but not  
16 eradication, of the axis deer population in Maui county.

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

19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



**Report Title:**

Invasive Species; East Maui; Division of Forestry and Wildlife;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources' division of forestry and wildlife, Maui branch, for invasive species technician positions in east Maui to address invasive plants and animals, efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate invasive species in the county of Maui, and activities relating to the proper management, but not eradication, of the axis deer population in Maui county. (SD1)

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

