

JAN 17 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AXIS DEER.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the population of
2 the chital deer, also known as the axis deer, is growing
3 exponentially and causing damage to farms and ranches in Maui
4 county. Axis deer are known pests of agriculture, and of native
5 and culturally significant plants, many of which are endangered.
6 The legislature further finds that the growing axis deer
7 population in Maui threatens animals in the forest and native
8 plants that are vital to maintaining critical watershed areas
9 and the county's efforts to promote food sustainability and
10 local economies.

11 The legislature further finds that, while the axis deer may
12 be an invasive species, they significantly contribute to the
13 subsistence hunting lifestyle and cultural practices of the
14 residents of islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai. Accordingly,
15 available resources should be focused on the management of the
16 axis deer population to mitigate their negative environmental
17 and food production impacts.



1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to properly
2 manage, but not eradicate, the axis deer population in Maui
3 county.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,500,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
7 activities relating to the proper management, but not
8 eradication, of the axis deer population in Maui county.

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

11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

12 INTRODUCED BY: *J. Kalani Eguchi*



S.B. NO. 2317

Report Title:

Axis Deer; Population Management; Maui County; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to DLNR for the proper management, rather than eradication, of the axis deer population in Maui county.

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