

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, March 16, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1922, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

House Bill 1922, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) for the detection and management of invasive species in the county of Maui. **The Department supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's natural resources, agriculture, and economy, and to the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's residents and visitors. The Department works closely with the Maui Invasive Species Committee, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Health to mitigate impacts from the invasive species listed in SECTION 1 of this measure. Additional funding would help further detect and/or control these species in the county of Maui.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

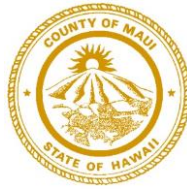
ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

Michael P. Victorino
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

March 10, 2020

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT, and
WATER AND LAND
Monday, March 16, 2020, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 224

HB1922 HD1 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Mike Gabbard and Kaiali'i Kahele, Chairmen
Russell E. Ruderman and Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairmen
Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment, and
Water and Land

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **FULL SUPPORT of HB1922 HD1.**

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate certain invasive species in the county of Maui. The funding required from the county for such initiatives and grants has substantially increased over the years. In the last two fiscal years, funding increased from \$895,000 in FY2019 to \$3,650,000 in FY2020. The funding for coqui frogs is \$2,500,000 with the primary reason being lack of funds when the species was first detected on Maui. Early detection, control and eradication is essential to avoid these types of cost increases in the future.

It is our understanding that the specific amount of funding to DLNR will be set out separately in the budget bill.

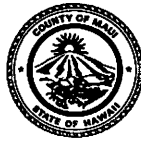
Accordingly, I strongly urge you to pass this measure, HB1922 HD1.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
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Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 11, 2020

TO: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Honorable Kaiiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee 
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 16, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1922, HD1, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate the problem of invasive species in Maui County.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Invasive species such as coqui frogs, miconia, and little fire ants continue to threaten watersheds, ecological resources, agriculture, native plant and animal species, and the residential quality of life in Maui County. Therefore, they must be prevented, controlled, or eliminated.
2. Intrastate commerce and the interisland transportation of plants have resulted in a significant increase of invasive species that has grown to include new species such as coffee borer beetles, rhinoceros beetles, and rat lungworm disease.
3. Environmental protection through the reduction and eradication of invasive species is a statewide and partnership-driven effort. The County of Maui works closely with Maui Invasive Species Committee and Molokai Invasive Species Committee to target invasive threats to Maui County. Appropriating statewide funds towards this effort is sorely needed.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT AND COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 224
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020 AT 1:15 P.M.**

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

To The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair;
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Water & Land;

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1922 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce, with approximately 650 members. I am writing share our strong support of HB1922.

Invasive species affect both residents and visitors and are detrimental to our various industries, our ecosystem and our quality of life. In addition, invasive species have detrimental affects on our farmers, stifling the resurgence of the agriculture industry on Maui. We support this bill to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate certain invasive species in Maui County as it has been one of our legislative priorities for many years and will be very beneficial for Maui County.

We appreciate that there is another bill addressing axis deer on Maui and we need both bills and expanded efforts like the rapid response plan to take care of these issues.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter and therefore ask that this bill be passed.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 16, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1922, HD1
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Room 224
1:15 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Kahele, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Keith-Agaran, 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 1,800 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 HB 1922, HD1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate certain invasive species in the county of Maui.

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 strongly supports this measure which seeks to protect the people, environment, and agriculture in Maui County. **We respectfully request that all Counties receive funding to combat invasive species.**

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

HB-1922-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 1:03:50 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwamato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1922-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 11:50:20 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Springer Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this effort to further fund invasive species control programs in Maui County, and appreciate any additional funding made available state-wide.

HB-1922-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 6:13:15 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a conservation biologist for the past 30 years, I am in support of HB1922 HD1. Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's environment, agriculture, and economy. Funding for the control of invasive species, such as coqui frogs, little fire ants, coffee berry borer, rhinoceros beetles, and rat lungworm disease, is critical to ensure that appropriate responses can be implemented and maintained which mitigate negative impacts on the environment and economy. This bill is described in the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan which guides Statewide efforts to prevent, control and mitigate invasive species.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

HB-1922-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 8:18:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1922-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2020 12:08:48 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/16/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments: