

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 House Committee on  
FINANCE**

**Thursday, February 20, 2020  
12:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**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

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2020  
12:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1922 HD1  
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1922 HD1, relating to invasive species. The bill appropriates funds from the general fund for fiscal year 2020-2021 to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate the problem of invasive species in Maui County. The Department supports this measure and offers a comment.

Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawaii's agriculture and economy. Funding for 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. The Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan guides these efforts. However, the Department notes that currently there are no invasive rhinoceros beetles in Maui County, so perhaps reference to this pest should not be included in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**HB-1922-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:59:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2020 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:



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February 20, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

Room 308  
12:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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.



**MAUI**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 308  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 12:00 P.M.**

To The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair;  
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair; and  
Members of the Committee on Finance;

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG 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.

**HB-1922-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 6:26:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2020 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1922. Hawaii is known as the “endangered species capital of the world” due in large part to invasive species. We must do what we can to protect Hawaii's dwindling native species, which will in turn protect Hawaii’s fragile ecosystem.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Sincerely,

Andrea Quinn

Kihei, Maui