

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, January 29, 2020
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1922
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

House Bill 1922 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.

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
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**JANUARY 29, 2020
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

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

Chairperson Creagan and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1922, relating to invasive species. The bill appropriates funds from the general fund 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 Hawai'i'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 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan guides these efforts. However, the Department notes that currently there are no invasive rhinoceros beetles in Maui County.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
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

January 27, 2020

TO: The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Tamara Paltin, Councilmember for West Maui
Maui County Council

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 29, 2020; SUPPORT OF HB 1922, RELATING
TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill 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..

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

Recognizing the increase of invasive species in Maui County and the need for rapid response and increased biosecurity to protect our precious ecosystem, agriculture, and economy, I support the appropriation of funding to assist the DLNR to reduce and eradicate the invasive species listed in the measure.

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
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WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
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January 27, 2020

TO: The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 29, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 1922, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

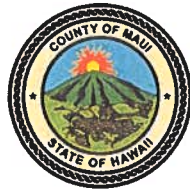
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate the problem of invasive species in Maui County.

Legislation with a similar purpose is included in the Maui County Legislative Package; however, 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, and therefore, 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 to address this growing issue.

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



Michael P. Victorino
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz
Managing Director

Kay Fukumoto
Economic Development Director

COUNTY OF MAUI
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2200 MAIN STREET
ONE MAIN PLAZA, SUITE 305
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

January 28, 2020

TESTIMONY OF KAY FUKUMOTO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 312

HB1922 RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair
Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Agriculture

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

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for efforts to substantially reduce and eradicate certain invasive species in the county of Maui. Environmental initiatives and grants are part of the Office of Economic Development and funding has substantially increased over the years. In the last two fiscal years, funding went 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.

I strongly urge you to pass this measure, HB1922.

Sincerely,

Kay Fukumoto
Economic Development Director

HB-1922

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 5:49:04 AM

Testimony for AGR on 1/29/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Manfredi	Hawaii Coffee Association	Support	No

Comments:



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e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

January 28, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 1922
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Creagan, Vice-Chair DeCoite, 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 1,900 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.

HFB is in strong support of HB 1922, 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

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 9:25:26 AM

Testimony for AGR on 1/29/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Springer Kaye	Big Island Invasive Species Committee	Support	No

Comments:



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

LATE

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 312
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020 AT 8:30 A.M.**

To The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Chair;
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Agriculture;

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

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 8:49:22 AM

Testimony for AGR on 1/29/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosie F Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in support HB1922, of DLNR Invasive Species; County of Maui Appropriations to support funds to DLNR forefforst to substantially reduce and eradicate certain invasive species in the county of Maui.

Mahalo nui

HB-1922

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 12:12:57 PM

Testimony for AGR on 1/29/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Tuipulotu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: