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 Committee on WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 20, 2020 10:35 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of SENATE BILL 2713, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Senate Bill 2713, Senate Draft 1, proposes to establish an invasive species rapid response trust fund to facilitate invasive species detection and control in situations where the Governor has declared an invasive species emergency. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources** (Department) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.

The Department manages a variety of invasive species programs and is the administrative host of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC). For both departmental programs and interagency projects supported by the HISC, project costs are assigned at the beginning of a fiscal year. There is no source of funding that specifically supports new emergency responses to invasive species incursions that happen after the start of the fiscal year. An invasive species rapid response fund would better enable the state to respond to threats at the time of first detection, when the likelihood of success is highest and the cost of eradication is lowest. Establishing such a fund is one of the key goals of the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, described in border policy action item BorPol1.3. Appropriating money into this fund is described in border funding action item BorTifs1.4. Establishing this fund as a trust fund would allow appropriated funds to remain available across fiscal years.

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 WILD LIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

LAND STATE PARKS EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

HAWAII EMPLOYER-LINION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU. HAWAII 96810-0150 CRAIG K. HIRAI

ROBERT YU DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2713, S.D. 1

February 20, 2020 10:35 a.m. Room 211

RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

The Department of Budget and Finance offers comments on Senate Bill (S.B.)
No. 2713, S.D. 1.

S.B. No. 2713, S.D. 1, establishes the Invasive Species Rapid Response Trust Fund (ISRRTF) and appropriates \$1,000,000 in trust funds and \$1,000,000 in general funds for FY 21 for deposit into the trust fund to mitigate the impact of invasive species and immediately address newly detected threats. The ISRRTF would generate revenues through legislative appropriations and interest earnings and be administered by the Invasive Species Council within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The Invasive Species Council would be afforded certain exemptions on trust fund expenditures in the event of an invasive species emergency declaration.

As a matter of general policy, the department does not support the creation of trust funds that require regular general fund appropriations to support its activities, and it is difficult to determine whether the proposed trust fund would be self-sustaining.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

FEBRUARY 20, 2020 10:35 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 211

SENATE BILL NO. 2713 SD1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2713 SD1, Relating to Biosecurity. The measure establishes an invasive species rapid response special fund for rapid response to mitigate or eradicate newly detected invasive species threats in the State. The fund is administered by the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council. Upon Council determination that one or more newly detected invasive species poses a substantial threat to agriculture, commerce, economy, environment, or public health of the State or otherwise warrant immediate action, the Council requests the governor to declare that an invasive species emergency exists. Upon issuance of the invasive species emergency declaration, the Council may respond to the emergency and expend funds without legislative approval and without regard to chapters 36, 37, and 89. The Council must account for expenditures from the fund and include that information in its annual report to the legislature. The Department supports this measure and offers comments.

Invasive species are a primary threat to Hawai'i's agriculture and economy.

Adequate funding for control of invasive species is critical to ensure that appropriate responses which mitigate negative impacts on the environment and economy can be



implemented and maintained in a timely manner. The Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan provides the framework for these response efforts.

However, the Department has concerns about the implementation of the bill. First, the definition of "newly detected invasive species" needs clarification regarding whether it only applies to newly detected species at the State level, or whether it also applies to new detections of invasive species at the island/county or even intraisland/county level. For example, coconut rhinoceros beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*) is currently only known to exist in the City and County of Honolulu, so would this fund be accessible if the beetle was subsequently discovered in Maui County?

Second, clarification is needed regarding which agencies can expend the funds. On page 2 lines 10-12 the Council is given the authority to expend the money, but on page 3 lines 15-16 DLNR is given authority to expend the funds. As a suggestion, lines 15-16 on page 3 could be amended to "The sum shall be appropriated to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and expended by the Council for the purposes of this act."

Lastly, the parameters of an invasive species emergency declaration need clarification. Currently, governor declared emergencies are limited to sixty (60) days pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statute §127A-14(d). However, invasive species response activities typically exceed this time frame and often require several months to years for successful completion. The bill should specify whether funds can be expended after an emergency declaration has expired. If funds cannot be expended after the declaration has expired, then there will need to be a re-definition of the applicable timeframe for an invasive species emergency declaration that allows for access to the fund for the duration of the emergency project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 10:35 a.m.
By
Nicholas Comerford, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawaii at Mānoa

SB 2713 SD1 - RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in <u>strong support</u> of SB 2713 SD1 relating to invasive species.

According to the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, invasive species bring diseases, cause predation on native species, out-compete native species, alter habitat, and hybridize with native species. Hawai'i has some of the highest number of invasive species in the U.S.; and given that tourism is an important economic base for Hawai'i, invasive species have the potential to produce devastating effects on the state and its economy. Biosecurity, which includes invasive species control, is the major challenge that faces Hawai'i agriculture. The potential economic effect in agricultural and non-agricultural settings is estimated to be in the billions of dollars.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the competent way to address invasive species is called Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR). By definition this is "a coordinated set of actions to find and eradicate potential invasive species in a specific location before they spread and cause harm". An example of this can be seen with the past and recent history of little fire ants. They are well established on Hawai'i Island, but not yet on other islands, although they are invading other islands. Upon detection, Hawai'i Department of Agriculture engages in rapid response. To date, these actions have been able to maintain a level of control to where little fire ants are not yet established.

A rapid response to invasive species is also consistent with the best management practice known as Integrated Pest Management (IPM). According to the Environmental Protection Agency, IPM "is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management...that can be applied to both agricultural and non-agricultural settings". Its components are: (1) Set an Action Threshold, (2) Monitor and Identify Pests, (3)

Prevention, and (4) Control. It is not always possible to completely eradicate an invasive species, therefore one sets a threshold below which one attempts to maintain the population. For the Control component of IPM, the less risky control measures are attempted first. If the level of success does not decrease the problem below the action threshold, then additional control measures are applied. Combining concepts of EDRR and IPM define a short and long-term strategy that can maintain and improve Hawai'i's ecosystems and economy.

The Hawai'i legislature via SB 2713 SD1 is using concepts of EDRR by defining a rapid response trust fund for this approach to invasive species control. This bill is well-conceived and has a mechanism for funding. At the same time, it must be understood that the legislature cannot tie the hands of state agencies to apply concepts of EDRR and IPM by excessively limiting the tools that are necessary to combat invasive species. For example, bills that target the use of pesticides MUST be seriously considered as to their effects on invasive species control. They must be based on the best known, and accepted science. Without seriously considering companion legislation, a rapid response bill will not accomplish its goal.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in <u>strong support</u> of SB 2713 SD1; and look forward to it becoming law and protecting our native ecosystems, our people and our economy.

Harry Kim Mayor



Roy Takemoto *Managing Director*

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i

Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553 KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740 (808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 18, 2020

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

RE: SB 2713, SD1 Relating to Biosecurity

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2713, SD1.

Two or more years ago, the Council of Mayors identified invasive species as a top-priority issue that deserves your attention. Our best efforts at the County level are often inadequate to protect our islands from harmful pests, and limited resources make it imperative that we work together with you in pursuing solutions to what often seem intractable problems.

Creating a well-funded, rapid response mechanism to deal with invasives seems like an excellent way to attack infestations as they are identified. Prompt action will almost always have the best chance for success.

I hope you will approve SB 2713, SD1.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim MAYOR 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



COUNTY COUNCIL

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

February 18, 2020

TO:

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM:

Alice L. Lee/

Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB

2713, SD 1, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to protect the State's resources, agriculture, and health and to execute the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan by appropriating funds to mitigate or eradicate newly detected invasive species threats in the State.

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 agriculture, commerce, economy, environment, public health, and the residential quality of life in Maui County and, therefore, must be prevented, controlled, or eliminated.
- 2. Rapid response to controlling and eradicating invasive species can make the difference in preventing the widespread outbreak of diseases.
- 3. Establishing an invasive species rapid response trust fund would ensure quick prevention, control, or elimination of a newly detected invasive species prior to the species becoming firmly established, saving money for taxpayers in the long term.

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

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 7:50:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Nicole K Galase	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemen's Council	Support	No	•



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

February 20, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 2713, SD1 RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Room 211 10:35 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair 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 SB 2713, SD1, which establishes the Invasive Species Rapid Response Trust Fund for rapid responses to invasive species emergencies.

Farmers and ranchers are constantly challenged with new invasive species. Often control measures are not known and time is needed to develop solutions. The new pest or disease could also be one that has lain incipient in our ecosystem, but due to changing climatic conditions, eating habits and lifestyles, suddenly becoming a problem. Hosts may already be widespread as with the Ratlung Worm Disease,

A few years ago, the avian flu was considered a significant threat and there was concern about wild bird populations. However, today, we see feral chickens running amock with no control in sight. Currently, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture has jurisdiction over plants and animals while the Hawaii Department of Health has the vector control branch. HISC is the body that is expected to form the collaboration between various agencies to achieve invasive species management.

HFB believes that invasive species management is not just about now but about the future. The significant feral bird population – Rose-ringed parakeet to name one is left to the industry to seek funding and assistance even as it could become a host to other problems. This illustrates the difficulty associated with identifying how and when these funds will be used. New invasive species may not always be readily obvious. This effort

will be enhanced with collaborations such as those between the HISC to have advanced knowledge of what pests and diseases can be problematic.

A process is needed to ensure that the intent of a Rapid Response Program is realized.

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





HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 211 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 10:35 A.M.

To The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2713 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 SB2713.

The Maui Chamber of Commerce supports SB2713 to establish the invasive species rapid response special fund. Agriculture is extremely important to our community and state and the introduction and spread of invasive species continues to be a growing problem. With this bill, appropriate funding would be available to quickly address new invasive species before they take hold and spread and expedite the process.

Often these issues originate elsewhere and then through the importation of plants to neighbor islands, invasive species are spread. We receive emails from the Department of Agriculture and were alerted to the new longhorn beetle. As a state, we now need to look at the longhorn beetle that affects ulu, avocado, cacao, citrus, moringa, kukui and more. Many of our members and Maui farmers are growing these products, so this is very concerning and it would be helpful to have the rapid response special fund established to address this new issue. Further, if we had this earlier, little fire ants may not have spread to Maui, Oahu and other areas.

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

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap President

Pamela Jumpap

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.

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 3:27:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Una Greenaway	Testifying for Hawaii Organic Farming Assoc.	Support	No

Comments:

Chair De la Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran;

Please pass this crucially important legislation. Every month we seem to get a new pest that greatly threatens agriculture in the Aloha state. it is hard enough to try and make a living in Agriculture, without the challenge of paying to fight for new pests.

I humbly ask that you do the right thing and pass this bill

aloha,

Una Greenaway

HOFA

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 10:22:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Bowring	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I don't want something even worse than fire ants, rat lungworm, or coqui frogs taking over our ecosystem.

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 9:56:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Franny Brewer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Puna and someone who has worked in conservation in Hawaii for nearly two decades, I strongly support this bill. Here on the Big Island we are inundated not only with the pests brought in a hundred years ago, but with new ones brought in just the last couple of decades - little fire ants, coqui frogs, semi-slugs, the Queensland Longhorn beetle, the two-lined spittlebug, now the avocado lacebug. These pests threaten our food security, health, and way of life. We need the ability to respond quickly and decisively right away when a new pest is discovered. The resources are already stretched so thin for pest response here that it is almost impossible to mount a quick and effective response without being able to hire the expertise and manpower immediately to do so. Please help us by passing this bill!

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 10:23:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henri Etta Schmitz	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 11:45:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

aloha,

invasive species have literally changed the landscape of our islands. even more important, those changes have made it more and more difficult to grow food and live comfortably without using a plethora of toxic chemicals to do so. This must change and it must stop.

this bill is a good step in helping to move forward in a better way.

mahalo and sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2020 11:48:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phaethon Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:19:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kris Bordessa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Someone brought me a 7 year old coffee tree for my garden the other day. That thoughful gesture resulted in a positive fire ant test, showing that there WERE fire ants in the root ball, and the eventual destruction of the tree. This was a *nursery grown tree. How is it that nurseries are selling trees that are infested with fire ants? Why isn't the BIIS dealing with this issue in a more urgent manner?

The coqui frogs keep me awake at night. Now I'm busy worrying about spittle bugs and the longhorn beetle.

There NEEDS to be a faster response to these invasive species. This bill needs to be passed for the security of our islands, even though in my opinion it doesn't go far enough.

Thank you,

Kris Bordessa

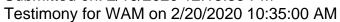
<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 11:49:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Molly Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 12:13:33 PM





Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claire Muskopf	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Invasive species response has been delayed and under supported throughout the years.

It is time for the state to have a more mobile and responsive system to address threats to our environment.

This bill has many other important benefits to your constituents and visitors.

Please pass this!

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 12:56:47 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ī	Asta Miklius	Individual	Support	No

<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 3:18:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nancy campbell- kowardy	Individual	Support	No



<u>SB-2713-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2020 4:33:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark A. Koppel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

NO MORE COQUIS OR MONGOOSES

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 8:15:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	l estifier Position	Present at Hearing
James B Friday	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing to support SB 2713 and the creation of an invasive species rapid response trust fund. Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii agriculture, ecosystems, and our way of life. Many invasive species can be successfully eradicated before they cause much harm if agencies have the funding to attack them as soon as they are discovered. Early eradication is much more economically efficient that long term control. This bill will go a long way to protecting Hawaii.

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 9:14:53 PM
Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
andrea sparks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Invasive species have been consistently contributing tonHawaiis loss of biodiversity since the first explorers came to the pristine Hawaiian Islands. It is crucial that we have ample resources to swiftly curtail and prevent the expansion of unintentionally introduced species. Please support this bill to put funding in the hands of the constituents who can prevent invasive species from destroying Hawaii's garden of Eden.

We fast and accurate use of funding we might have been able to avoid crisis like the little fire ant. This little creatures have greatly reduced the quality of life in Hawaii and our ability to enjoy the tranquility of th de islands. Other species like the strawberry guava and the Albesia trees might have never taken hold and choked out native Forrest and created Unix during events like teopica storms from felled trees.

please support this bill to put money at the immediate disposal of those who can malam the Aina and keep invasive species out.

Thank you,

andrea sparks