## S.R. NO. 161

MAR 1 1 2022

## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PROCESS TO CERTIFY PRIVATELY-OWNED AND OPERATED PLANT QUARANTINE FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture is responsible for plant quarantine facilities in the State; and

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WHEREAS, coffee leaf rust is a devastating fungal pathogen that poses a significant danger to Hawai'i's coffee industry; and

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WHEREAS, the State has adopted rules to restrict the movement of coffee plants from islands with infected plants to stop the spread of coffee leaf rust; and

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WHEREAS, a long-term solution to the threat posed by coffee leaf rust is to replace existing coffee plants with rust-resistant varieties imported from oversees; and

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WHEREAS, importation of coffee plants requires the plants to undergo plant quarantine in a state-administered plant quarantine facility; and

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WHEREAS, allowing the use of privately-owned and operated plant quarantine facilities would dramatically increase the capacity of the State to import coffee plant varieties that are resistant to coffee leaf rust; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, that the Department of Agriculture is requested to develop and implement a process to certify privately-owned and operated plant quarantine facilities to allow for increased capacity of plant quarantine facilities in the State; and

29 30 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

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OFFERED BY:

