

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 4023

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 20 2022

RE: H.C.R. No. 17

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred
H.C.R. No. 17 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP
A FERAL UNGULATE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WEST HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a task force
to develop a feral ungulate management plan for West Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Forest
Industry Association, and one individual. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the populations of feral goats and
pigs in west Hawaii Island have increased to sizes that cannot be
sustained by the environment. As feral ungulates in Hawaii have
no natural predators to limit their population growth and impact
on native ecosystems, feral ungulates contribute to the spread of
rapid ohia death and pose threats to pasture forage and native
forests. Your Committee notes that the overpopulation of feral
ungulates has a significant detrimental impact on the health of
watersheds and coral reefs through increased vegetative
disturbance and erosion caused by grazing, browsing, trampling,
and rooting by feral ungulates. In addition, feral ungulates



create major roadway hazards, which have caused motor vehicle accidents.

Your Committee further finds that considerable private and public resources are being expended to address the overpopulation of feral ungulates. The hunting of feral game mammals is an important local food source and public recreational and subsistence hunting opportunity. However, the populations of feral ungulates cannot be sufficiently controlled through hunting alone. Therefore, collaborative efforts are needed to identify opportunities for more effective management of feral ungulate populations to control overpopulated areas while also protecting Hawaii's native natural resources and species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 17, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water and Land,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* HR 17	Committee Referral: WTL	Date: 4/18/22
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	5			

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes