

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

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 COMMITTEES ON HEALTH AND WATER AND LAND
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3376

February 14, 2022
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 and Videoconference

RELATING TO MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3376 appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 to establish one full-time Planner position in the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support development of mosquito control measures.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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 Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
HEALTH

Monday, February 14, 2022
1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Video Conference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3376
RELATING TO MOSQUITO CONTROL

Senate Bill 3376 proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) for the establishment of one 1.0 FTE position to support planning and implementation of landscape scale mosquito control efforts for the benefit of conservation and public health. Mosquito-borne diseases threaten human health and the continued existence of the remaining Hawaiian forest birds, with several bird species on the brink of extinction. *Aedes* mosquitos have the potential to spread throughout the islands and can carry diseases that can be transmitted to humans. Action is urgently needed to counter both native species and human threats, and capacity is needed to bring the program online as soon as possible. The proposed position will provide that capacity. **The Department supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental budget.**

The Department recommends the following amendments to the bill:

Page 1, lines 14-16 as follows:

The purpose of this Act is to bolster the efforts by the department of land and natural resources and the department of health to develop mosquito control measures by appropriating funds for the establishment of one full-time equivalent planner position in the department of land and natural resources.

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

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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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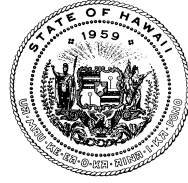
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
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LAND
STATE PARKS



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 3376
Relating to Mosquito Control**

SENATOR LORRAINE INOUE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
AND
SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALO, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: 2/14/2022

Room Number: Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department supports this bill provided that its passage does not
2 replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental budget.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department strongly supports passage of SB 3376, which
4 appropriates funds to establish one 1.0 FTE position to support planning and implementation of
5 landscape scale mosquito control in both public health and conservation. Coordinated efforts
6 between the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Health, along
7 with other state, federal and private stakeholders require an individual dedicated to manage and
8 monitor the various ongoing projects in mosquito control.

9 **Offered Amendments:** The Department respectfully requests adding the department of health
10 in the purpose of the bill, found on Page 1, lines 14-16 as we have collaborated with DLNR on
11 landscape mosquito control, focusing on public health. Secondly, to facilitate hiring a qualified
12 individual, the Department respectfully requests amending page 2, lines 1-7 to substitute one-
13 full-time equivalent planner to a program specialist position (SR22/24) in the department of land
14 and natural resources.

15

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

SB-3376

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 11:53:17 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maxx Phillips	Testifying for Center for Biological Diversity	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha WTL and HTH Committee Members,

The Center is in strong support of SB 3376. The introduction of invasive mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases, such as avian malaria, have wiped out most native Hawaiian forest birds from lowland forests and devastated populations. Since mosquitoes cannot survive at higher elevations due to cooler temperatures, our forest birds have sought refuge in higher-elevation forests. However, as the impacts of global climate change continue to accelerate, temperatures at higher elevations in Hawai‘i are increasing at an unforeseen rate.

Warmer conditions allow mosquitos to invade mid- and high-elevation forests, resulting in the spread of avian malaria to the last remaining populations of these endangered and threatened birds found nowhere else in the world. For example, on Kaua‘i, where warmer temperatures now allow mosquitoes to survive at all elevations, the once abundant ‘iwi are expected to go extinct by 2050.

This paid position is a good step in the right direction. **Please support mosquito control and pass SB 3376 before it is too late.**

Mahalo,

Maxx Phillips

Hawai‘i Director and Staff Attorney

Center *for* Biological Diversity

1188 Bishop Street, Suite 2412

Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

www.biologicaldiversity.org

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy
SUPPORT FOR SB 3376, RELATING TO MOSQUITO CONTROL.**

**Committee on Water & Land and Committee on Health
February 14, 2022, 1:00 pm
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

Aloha Chairs Inouye and Keohokalole, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Baker, and Members of the Committees:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) supports SB 3376, Relating to Mosquito Control, which appropriates funds for the establishment of one full-time equivalent planner position related to mosquito control in the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Hawai'i's native forest birds are facing an extinction crisis. Before the 1800s there were no mosquitoes in Hawai'i. Since then, a handful of mosquito species have become established in the islands. In the 1900s, exotic birds from regions where avian malaria was endemic were brought to Hawai'i. With both the mosquito vector and avian malaria parasite (*Plasmodium relictum*) present, the native forest bird populations were decimated. Because they evolved without natural exposure to avian malaria, native Hawaiian forest birds are extremely susceptible to this disease and many species went extinct, while others' home ranges contracted and their populations declined. In the past, forest birds residing in higher elevations that were too cold for efficient mosquito reproduction and parasite development were mostly spared. Now, as the planet warms from the climate crisis, these high elevation refugia have diminished; mosquitoes and the avian malaria they vector are killing forest birds at higher and higher elevations.

A significant interagency and inter-organizational effort is underway to develop mosquito control methods to prevent further extinction of Hawai'i's remaining forest birds. Currently, this is an additional effort on top of full workloads. Hawai'i's birds need increased staff and resources to ensure their survival, from DLNR to nonprofits and beyond. TNC manages multiple preserves throughout the state that provide habitat to the bird species facing extinction due to climate change and avian malaria and we are investing resources in this effort. The Conservancy is committed to working with DLNR and stakeholders on taking action to ensure these species' survival, but DLNR needs additional staff to ensure this work can be achieved.

The position established by SB 3376 will bolster DLNR's efforts to control mosquitoes spreading avian malaria. This support will go far in helping to save these iconic birds. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3376.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i and Palmyra is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and work in over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties, and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and for the many benefits they provide to people.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Kathy M. Matsui Janet Montag Alicia Moy Bradley E. Smith Julie Smolinski Peter K. Tomozawa Richard N. Zwern

SB-3376

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 12:37:06 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Nui Kākou,

Mahalo for taking the time to work on this very important aspect of our future. Pretty simply, without our forest birds, our forests, the diversity, the lineal links to things within our hawaiian culture, will all cease to be. It is imperative that we invest into the study and eradication of these pests to decrease and potentially end the threat to our native species. One FT person is a start, and there must be more done to save our species and culture as we know it.

mahalo for your time,
Kimeona Kane