

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 3379 SD1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY**

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID TARNAS, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Hearing Date: 3/15/2022

Room Number: Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Provides appropriations to the Department of Land and Natural Resources

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports SB 3379 SD1 which appropriates
3 funds for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program, and continue the work established by Mamalu
4 Poepoe.

5 In 2017, Mamalu PoePoe (MMPP) was established as a 5-year collaborative program within the
6 Department of Land and Natural Resources/Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) to bring
7 together resources from DLNR, Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Health (DOH), the University of
8 Hawaii and federal partners to facilitate a cooperative partnership in the detection and prevention
9 of invasive species from entering Hawaii through the ports of entry. The DOH, Vector Control
10 Branch has greatly benefitted from the knowledge, expertise and funding provided by MMPP to
11 help expand our surveillance program at airports and harbors. In 2017 at Kahului Airport, with
12 assistance from MMPP, Maui Vector Control staff intercepted mosquito larvae and prevented the
13 breeding of *Aedes aegypti* mosquito; the mosquito known to transmit vector borne diseases such
14 as Dengue Fever, Chikungunya, Yellow Fever, and Zika.

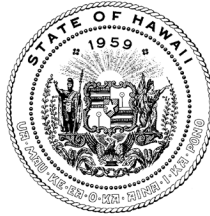
15 Most recently in August of 2021, the Oahu Vector Control staff identified an adult *Aedes aegypti*
16 mosquito at one of its routine monitoring stations at Honolulu Harbor, Pier 2. MMPP assisted in
17 DOH's response by providing technical assistance, securing additional sampling equipment and
18 facilitating and coordinating access to secure locations at the harbor.

1 The infrastructure already established through DLNR/HISC and specifically under MMPP has
2 been invaluable in the development of an interagency Standard Operating Procedures Manual for
3 invasive species, and bringing together agency experts to strengthen and protect Hawaii's
4 biosecurity.

5

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND

Tuesday March 15, 2022
8:30 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 430, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3379, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Senate Bill 3379, Senate Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Ports-of-Entry Biosecurity Program (formerly known as Māmalu Poepoe) started as a pilot project in 2016 to fill a critical gap in pest monitoring at Hawaii's airports. The Program is administered by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) under the Department (Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes) and is a multi-agency program that includes the State Departments of Health, Agriculture, and Transportation, the Island Invasive Species Committees and the Hawaii Ant Lab. Current monitoring efforts occur at Hawaii's airports and focus on four primary pests: Africanized bees, invasive ants, mosquitoes, and coconut rhinoceros beetle. Each of these targets could easily hitchhike on planes, slip through inspections, and impact multiple sectors of the local economy, human health, and our way of life in the islands.

The 5-year pilot project demonstrated the need to continue monitoring efforts not only at airports but expand to seaports and add target pests to the current list, based on feedback from state and federal agencies. These efforts do not duplicate the critical inspections carried out under the authority of the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Branch (HDOA PQ). Building capacity at HDOA PQ is necessary to implementing a comprehensive biosecurity program at ports of entry and fulfilling the goals identified in the 2017-2027 Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan.

HISC recently received permission from the Department of Transportation (DOT) Airports Division to continue current monitoring/surveillance efforts at airport facilities and is currently working with the DOT Harbors Division on a plan for monitoring at Honolulu Harbor. The continuation and expansion of the Program are dependent on securing additional funding. Small investments in early detection and rapid response programs are the most cost-effective way to deal with invasive species and can save the state billions of dollars in economic losses and damages.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SB-3379-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 10:57:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/15/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chelsea Arnott	DLNR	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am available for questions to DLNR. Please allow me Zoom access.

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
WATER & LAND

MARCH 15, 2022

8:30 A.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 430 & VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE BILL NO. 3379, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Chairperson Tarnas and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 3379, SD 1. The bill appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program and affirms that proactive investment in strengthening a ports-of-entry biosecurity program is more economic in protecting Hawaii from invasive species than reactionary actions. The Department supports the intent of the bill, however, has concerns and offers the following comments.

The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (“HISC”) was established by Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 194 “...to provide policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations...” While HISC provides policy and planning guidance for this important collaborative effort,



the respective departmental agencies that make up HISC provide the resources and staffing necessary to carry out their respective responsibilities to implement the biosecurity program.

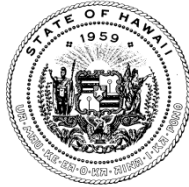
Pursuant to HRS §150A-51, the Department has been entrusted with the sole authority since 2008 to conduct port-of-entry inspections and take regulatory action on regulated articles including live plants, non-propagative plant parts, non-domestic animals, and microorganisms, including interisland movement of said articles, to implement the Biosecurity Program.

The Department's inspection authority at ports-of-entry, includes air and marine ports across the state, pursuant to HRS §150A-5(5). Inspections are done through the Department's Plant Quarantine Branch, and inspectors are already trained to detect the presence of any hitchhiking invasive pest, not just those that would not be found using just traps or lures, such as the brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys*, or egg masses of the spotted lantern fly, *Lycorma delicatula*. The Department also has the statutory authority to regulate the importation and/or possession, through the issuance of permits, certain plants, non-domestic animals, and microorganisms via Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter, 4-70, 4-71, and 4-71A, respectively. Further, under HRS §141-3.5 the Department's Plant Pest Control Branch has the authority to launch control and eradication programs against pests such as coconut rhinoceros beetle, little fire ants, and honeybees (which includes Africanized honeybees) have been listed under HAR 4-69A Pests for Control and Eradication.

As indicated above, the Department already has the statutory authority, and trained and experienced biosecurity personnel already at ports-of-entry statewide, and we are concerned that appropriating funds to an agency other than the Department to conduct functions already within its jurisdiction and being performed by the Department may be unnecessarily duplicative, redundant, or conflicting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 15, 2022
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 3379, S.D. 1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY.

House Committee on Water and Land

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill which recognizes invasive species threatens Hawaii's environment, agriculture, people, and our visitors by appropriating general fund revenues for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program for fiscal year 2022-2023.

The DOT is cognizant its airports and harbors are ports of entry for invasive species and agrees that strengthening biosecurity efforts ensures the public's safety and the economic prosperity of our entire State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

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

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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3379, S.D. 1

March 15, 2022
8:30 a.m.
Room 430 and Videoconference

RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

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

Senate Bill No. 3379, S.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 from the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program's (LNR 402) appropriation for the ports-of-entry biosecurity program.

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the practice of redirecting, on a general basis, funds specifically appropriated for one purpose to a different purpose. It is recommended that new general funds are appropriated to carry out the purpose of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



**HAWAII FOREST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
(HFIA)**

P. O. Box 66 □ 'O'ōkala, HI 96774
Phone: 808-933-9411
Email: hfia@hawaiiiforest.org
Website: www.hawaiiiforest.org

Date: 3/12/22

TO: WAL Chair David Tarnas, WAL Vice Chair Patrick Pihana Branco, Legislators Sonny Ganaden, Bertrand Kobayashi, Sam Satoru Kong, Dee Morikawa, Takashi Ohno, Bob McDermott

FROM: Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA)

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of SB3379 Relating to Biosecurity

Dear Hawai'i Legislators,

On behalf of the Directors of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA), this testimony is in support of SB3379.

The Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA) supports funding the Port of Entry Biosecurity Program for fiscal year 2022-2023. This program is an investment for our state and our future. Via this program a critical gap in our overall biosecurity system is filled. Monitoring ports of entry minimizes opportunities for new pest incursions and safeguards our islands from further invasion and damage from invasive species. Making small investments in the monitoring and rapid response efforts provided by this program saves the state millions of dollars in long-term response efforts and economic damages.

The program includes surveillance at ports-of-entry and enhances the state's ability for early detection and rapid response of species that can severely impact human health, the environment and the economy. The list of targets includes Africanized bees, invasive ants, mosquitos, and coconut rhinoceros beetle. Monitoring for and proactively protecting against such invasive pests helps to protect our forests and forest resources, our ranch and pasture lands, our food producing lands, and the economies tied to all three. Additionally, being proactive in protecting our islands and resources against further outbreaks of invasive species is a responsibility we have to the future generations who will rely on those resources.

If you have any questions regarding this testimony or would like additional information, please contact me at hfia@hawaiiiforest.org or 808-933-9411.

Mahalo,

Heather Simmons, Executive Director
Hawai'i Forest Industry Association

HFIA is a statewide, nonprofit organization established in 1989. Our mission is to promote healthy and productive forests and a sustainable forest industry through forest management, education, planning, information exchange, and advocacy.

Our programs promote healthier forests, increased business in Hawaii's forest industry, and more jobs within the sector.

We represent 100 members including individuals, public and private businesses and corporations.

HFIA Board of Directors

Officers: President Don Bryan, Vice-President Guy Cellier, Secretary Peter D. Simmons, Treasurer Wade Lee
Directors: Thomas Calhoun, Jeremy Campbell, Aaron Hammer, Nickolas Koch, Tai Lake, Gilles Lebbe, Michael Sowards, Irene Sprecher, Michael Tam, Jorma Winkler, Ron Wolfe, Aileen Yeh



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

March 15, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

TESTIMONY ON SB 3379, SD1
RELATING TO BIOSECURITY

Conference Room 430 & Videoconference
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Branco, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports SB 3379, SD1, which appropriates funds for a ports-of-entry biosecurity program.

Invasive species have become one of the most challenging problems impacting Hawai'i. Many invasive species are damaging Hawai'i'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, coffee leaf rust, macadamia felted coccid, brown tree snake, little fire ant, two-lined spittlebug, coconut rhinoceros beetle, small hive beetle and varoa mite, to name a few. Control measures take time to develop, leaving farmers and ranchers at risk.

Funding the ports-of-entry biosecurity program is essential to fully execute a comprehensive strategy to address the increasing amount of invasive species entering the state. This measure will provide necessary resources to HISC to help prevent new invasive species from entering Hawai'i and to control and hopefully eradicate invasive species that are already established in Hawai'i.

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

SB-3379-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:26:16 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/15/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The continued introduction of harmful invasive species into Hawaii has negatively affected me personally, as well as Hawaii's environment in general, and the state's finances. Money spent to strengthen Hawaii's biosecurity is money well spent.