## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FERAL CHICKENS.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that feral chickens and 2 roosters have become a persistent nuisance, particularly in
- 3 suburban and urban residential communities. Feral chickens and
- 4 roosters wander into yards and gardens, digging up plants,
- 5 damaging food crops, and jeopardizing native plants and
- ${f 6}$  resources. Feral roosters crow at all times of the day and
- 7 night, which has led to numerous noise complaints by residents
- $oldsymbol{8}$  throughout the State and droppings from feral chickens are
- 9 unsanitary and create a health concern.
- 10 The legislature further finds that feral chickens and
- 11 roosters also carry diseases that threaten other animals,
- 12 including native birds, and a noticeable increase in the number
- 13 of feral chickens and roosters also creates a road hazard for
- 14 drivers who must suddenly stop or swerve to avoid them. The
- 15 legislature further finds that residents and visitors need
- 16 better education to not exacerbate this problem by feeding feral
- 17 animals, which leads to further congregation and growth of the

- 1 nuisance. To protect Hawaii's ecosystem, natural resources, and
- 2 the health and safety of its residents, it is critical that the
- 3 State work together with the counties to identify and implement
- 4 collaborative solutions to control the significant increase in
- 5 the population of feral chickens and roosters.
- 6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
- 7 funds as a grant-in-aid to each county of the State to implement
- 8 feral chicken control programs and appropriate funds to the
- 9 department of health for a feeding of feral animals education
- 10 campaign.
- 11 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
- 12 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
- 13 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
- 14 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
- 15 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
- 16 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
- 17 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
- 18 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
- 19 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
- 20 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
- 21 ceiling are that:

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              The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
         (1)
2
              serve the public interest; and
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         (2)
              The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
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              addressed by this Act.
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         SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
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    revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $
                                                          or so
   much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 as a
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8
    grant-in-aid to each county as follows:
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         (1)
              $
                         to the city and county of Honolulu;
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         (2) $
                         to the county of Hawaii;
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         (3) $
                         to the county of Maui; and
12
                         to the county of Kauai,
         (4) $
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    for the implementation of a feral chicken control program for
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    each respective county.
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         The sum appropriated shall be expended by each county for
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    the purposes of this Act.
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         SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
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    revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $
                                                           or so
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much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for a

feeding of feral animals education campaign.

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- 1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 2 health for the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

## Report Title:

DOH; Counties; Feral Chickens; Control Program; Education Campaign; General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded; Appropriations

## Description:

Appropriates moneys to each county as a grant-in-aid for the implementation of feral chicken control programs. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Health for a feeding of feral animals education campaign. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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