HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010
STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 222

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT METHODS
FOR THE CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF THE FERAL PIG POPULATION
STATEWIDE.

WHEREAS, feral pigs are an invasive species that cause
considerable damage to the environment by consuming ground-
covering plants, destroying understory vegetation, churning and
wallowing in the ground, causing erosion, and creating mosquito
breeding grounds; and

WHEREAS, feral pigs directly impact the survival of native
forest birds and other species; and

WHEREAS, due to their aggressive nature, feral pigs are
also known to attack livestock, and transmit diseases to
livestock, people, and pets; and

WHEREAS, these pests have migrated in increasing numbers
from state land to residential areas, causing property damage
and disturbances that affect the health, safety, and welfare of
area residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, on Oahu, the Division of Forestry and
Wildlife (DOFAW) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources
(DLNR) received 12 calls per month concerning nuisance pigs; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, in Hawaii County, the United States
Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Services, Wildlife Services Office, set up a hotline to record
complaints about damages and threats from feral pigs and
received over 240 calls within two months; and

WHEREAS, Senate Resolution (S.R.) No. 26, S.D. 1, was
adopted by the Senate in 2005, requesting DLNR to collaborate
with land conservation, hunting, and animal care organizations
to review various methodologies for controlling non-native game
animals in Hawaii's forest areas; and

HR HMS 2010-2423
WHEREAS, House Resolution (H.C.R.) No. 98, S.D. 1, was adopted in 2006, requesting DLNR to prepare a plan to reduce the statewide feral pig population; and

WHEREAS, in response to H.C.R. No. 98, S.D. 1, 2006, DLNR reported that DOFAW removed approximately 550 nuisance pigs on Oahu in fiscal year 2006, in response to landowner reports and:

(1) Provides direct assistance to individuals affected by feral pigs by loaning traps, trapping pigs for release in game management areas, or trapping pigs for dispatch by interested hunters, where appropriate;

(2) Provides information to assist in the removal of pigs, such as by issuing a wildlife damage control permit, and contact information for individuals that will conduct removal work; and

(3) Provides information on how to obtain a hunting permit;

and

WHEREAS, despite the preparation of the technical report reviewing the methods and approaches for controlling non-native ungulates in Hawaii in response to S.R. No. 26, S.D. 1, 2005, and recommendations to reduce the statewide feral pig population in response to H.C.R. No. 98, S.D. 1, 2006, the feral pig population and the problems associated with the feral pig population continue; and

WHEREAS, feral pig invasions continue to jeopardize the health, safety, and economic well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, this problem has forced residents faced with this issue to take the situation into their own hands by entrapping the animals and employing firearms to protect their property from the threat posed by the feral pigs, which raises public safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, DLNR's plan to reduce the statewide feral pig population prepared in response to H.C.R. No. 98, S.D. 1, 2006, states that appropriate solutions to problems with nuisance feral pigs are site specific, depending on whether the land is...
private or government land, a public hunting area, rural, or residential or urban where public hunting and use of firearms is prohibited; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive study on the best methods of controlling and reducing the feral pig population specific to each type of site is necessary to address this situation; and

WHEREAS, DLNR's DOFAW is responsible for stewardship of forest, wildlife, and watershed resources, and is in the best position to address the concerns of these landowners who are affected by the rampaging feral pigs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that DLNR, with the cooperation and input of various government agencies and stakeholders, is requested to conduct a comprehensive study on the most effective and efficient methods for the control and reduction of the feral pig population statewide, specific to each type of site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in gathering input, DLNR is requested to consult with:

(1) The United States Department of Agriculture;
(2) Hawaii Department of Agriculture;
(3) University of Hawaii-Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
(4) Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
(5) County agencies;
(6) Private landowners affected by the feral pig population;
(7) The Hawaiian Humane Society; and
(8) Pig hunting organizations;

and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR is requested to submit its findings and recommendations, including any necessary legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the mayor of each county, and the Executive Director of the Hawaiian Humane Society.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 10 2010