
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE CURRENT LAWS, RULES, AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE REGARDING HIGH RISK PLANTS REQUIRING INTERVENTION.

1 WHEREAS, one of the major threats to Hawaii's agricultural,
2 horticultural, aquacultural, and livestock industries, forest and
3 recreational areas, and conservation districts of the State is
4 invasive plants; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture identifies and
7 regulates these threats by maintaining a restricted plants list;
8 and

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10 WHEREAS, the restricted plants list has not been changed
11 since its inception due to the time-consuming, costly, and
12 cumbersome process of rulemaking required to get plants on or off
13 the list; and

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15 WHEREAS, Hawaii, which allows importation of plants except
16 those on the restricted plant list, needs a process by which
17 to quickly intervene when high-threat plants are identified, as
18 determined by a risk assessment based on the benefit versus the
19 invasive potential; and

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21 WHEREAS, allowing a streamlined process for adding to and
22 removing from the restricted plant list or lists will add a
23 necessary tool to effectively and efficiently manage any serious
24 threat in a timely manner; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
29 Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Hawaii



1 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, is
2 requested to convene a working group to evaluate the current
3 laws, rules, and standards of practice regarding high risk
4 plants requiring intervention; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
7 the working group be composed of the following members:
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- 9 (1) A representative from the Department of Agriculture;
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11 (2) A representative from the Department of Land and
12 Natural Resources;
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14 (3) A representative from:
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16 (A) The University of Hawaii College of Tropical
17 Agriculture and Human Resources;
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19 (B) The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species;
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21 (C) The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii Chapter;
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23 (D) The Conservation Council for Hawaii;
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25 (E) The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;
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27 (F) The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii;
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29 (G) The horticulture industry;
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31 (H) The aquaculture industry; and
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33 (I) The livestock industry;
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35 and
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37 (4) One member each appointed by the President of the
38 Senate and the Speaker of the House of
39 Representatives;
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41 and
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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
44 the members appointed by the President of the Senate and the



1 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve as co-chairs;
2 and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
5 the working group:

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7 (1) Evaluate the current regulations, rules, and standards
8 of practice regarding the adding and removing of items
9 from the restricted plant list;

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11 (2) Determine a more effective and efficient process for
12 adding or removing plants to or from the restricted
13 plants list to supplement the existing rulemaking
14 process, including the risk evaluation and assessment
15 of the benefit versus the invasive potential of new and
16 existing plants;

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18 (3) Recommend a process by which the Board of Agriculture, a
19 board member, government agency, or industry or
20 conservation experts may recommend the designation of a
21 plant species as a restricted plant, including data
22 type and collection sufficiency;

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24 (4) Discuss whether there is a need for multiple restricted
25 plant lists, based on risk or threat assessments,
26 geographical criteria, specific purposes or conditions
27 or other relevant categories; and

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29 (5) Investigate any other relevant issues pertaining to
30 restricted plants as determined by the working group;

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32 and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species
35 Council and Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species are
36 requested to:

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38 (1) Communicate and collaborate with their individual
39 island members regarding the work and progress of this
40 working group; and



1 (2) Transmit a draft of their proposed findings,
2 recommendations, and proposed legislation to the
3 Legislative Reference Bureau no later than November 1,
4 2012;

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6 and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau
9 is requested to submit a report of the working group's findings
10 and recommendations, including problems with existing statutes or
11 administrative rules and any proposed legislation, to the
12 Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the
13 Regular Session of 2013; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working group
16 are requested to serve without compensation and without
17 reimbursement for expenses; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chairperson
21 of the Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of the Board of Land and
22 Natural Resources; members of the Hawaii Invasive Species
23 Council; Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical
24 Agriculture and Human Resources; Coordinating Group on Alien
25 Pest Species; The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii Chapter; Executive
26 Director, Conservation Council for Hawaii; Hawaii Farm Bureau
27 Federation; President of the Landscape Industry Council of
28 Hawaii; and Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

