STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2686

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 2 8 2014

RE: S.B. No. 2920

S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2014 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2920, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a little fire ant pilot project to research solutions for addressing the little fire ant threat in the State.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the County of Hawaii Department of Parks and Recreation, a Hawaii County Council Member, the Maui Invasive Species Committee, and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. Written comments in opposition were received from the Big Island Fisheries Alliance. The Department of Agriculture submitted written comments on the measure.

Your Committee finds that the Wasmannia auropunctata, known as the little fire ant, threatens native biodiversity, alters tropical ecosystems, impairs human health, impedes tourism, diminishes agricultural productivity, mars horticulture sales, and accordingly ranks among the world's worst invasive species.

Your Committee further finds that the little fire ant is a primary threat to Hawaii's environment, agriculture, and economy, as well as to the health and way of life of Hawaii's people.

SB2920 SD2 SSCR LRB 14-1787.doc

Research is needed to assess the long-term impacts of the little fire ant in the State and to ascertain the economic and social benefit from greater public investment in prevention and control.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the County of Hawaii is authorized, but not mandated, to hire, at a minimum, one part-time caretaker II position and two part-time caretaker I positions for the pilot project;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2920, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2920, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID Y. ICE. Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Seventh Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:				_
SB 2920 SD1	ENE/PSM, WAM 2-27-14				
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)					
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)		V			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					Ŀ
ENGLISH, J. Kalani					
ESPERO, Will					
KAHELE, Gilbert					
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.		<u> </u>			1.1
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					
RUDERMAN, Russell E.					
THIELEN, Laura H.					_
TOKUDA, Jill N.					
SLOM, Sam					
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Recommendation:					<u> </u>
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:  Nehlle A. Klani					
Distribution:         Original         Yellow         Pink         Goldenrod           File with Committee Report         Clerk's Office         Drafting Agency         Committee File Copy					

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes