
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that albizia trees are an
2 invasive species that present a threat to life and property in
3 Hawaii. Albizia trees are more likely than many other species
4 of trees of comparable size to fall or break in windy or rainy
5 weather conditions. In a natural disaster situation, like the
6 one created by tropical storm Iselle when it struck the Puna
7 district of Hawaii island, fallen or broken albizia trees may
8 threaten public safety by blocking evacuation routes, damaging
9 homes, downing utility lines, or impeding access to emergency
10 care facilities, schools, and polling places. Furthermore, the
11 speed and manner in which albizia trees grow inhibits the growth
12 and prosperity of native plants. Accordingly, the legislature
13 finds that the removal of albizia trees on both public and
14 private property is in the public interest.

15 The purposes of this Act are to:



1 (1) Amend the uses of the land conservation fund to
2 include the removal of invasive species on public and
3 private lands; and

4 (2) Appropriate moneys from the land conservation fund to
5 coordinate and implement the removal of albizia trees
6 on public and private land.

7 SECTION 2. Section 173A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

9 "(h) The fund shall be used for:

10 (1) The acquisition of interests or rights in land having
11 value as a resource to the State, whether in fee title
12 or through the establishment of permanent conservation
13 easements under chapter 198 or agricultural easements;

14 (2) The payment of any debt service on state financial
15 instruments relating to the acquisition of interests
16 or rights in land having value as a resource to the
17 State;

18 (3) Annual administration costs for the fund, not to
19 exceed five per cent of annual fund revenues of the
20 previous year; [~~and~~]



1 (4) Costs related to the operation, maintenance, and
2 management of lands acquired by way of this fund that
3 are necessary to protect, maintain, or restore
4 resources at risk on these lands, or that provide for
5 greater public access and enjoyment of these lands;
6 provided that the costs related to the operation,
7 maintenance, and management of lands acquired by way
8 of this fund do not exceed five per cent of annual
9 fund revenues of the previous year[-]; and

10 (5) Invasive species control and mitigation by the
11 invasive species council under chapter 194."

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the land
13 conservation fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as
14 may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the same sum or
15 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017
16 for the coordinated removal of albizia trees on public and
17 private property.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
19 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act;
20 provided that no state moneys shall be expended under this Act



1 for the removal of albizia trees on private land unless matched
2 on a dollar-for-dollar basis by private moneys.

3 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Cabinda H. Day
JAN 26 2015



H.B. NO. 989

Report Title:

Albizia Trees; Invasive Species; Land Conservation Fund;
Appropriation

Description:

Amends the land conservation fund uses to allow for albizia tree removal. Makes an appropriation to DLNR for the removal of albizia trees on both public and private land.

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