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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of  
2 health has reported more than seventy cases of rat lungworm  
3 disease caused by *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* from 2001 to 2014.  
4 There have been many more cases in 2015, including at least two  
5 on Maui. The disease has claimed lives and caused crippling  
6 chronic disability. The cost for one severe case can exceed  
7 \$1,000,000. In response to this growing problem, the Daniel K.  
8 Inouye College of pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo  
9 established the Hawaii island rat lungworm disease working  
10 group, which has been conducting research and educational  
11 outreach on the disease for the past four years. However, the  
12 legislature finds that more efforts are needed to adequately  
13 address rat lungworm disease.

14           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
15 department of health for the prevention and eradication of rat  
16 lungworm disease.



# H.B. NO. 1762

1           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for  
 4 activities relating to the prevention and eradication of rat  
 5 lungworm disease.

6           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 7 health for the purposes of this Act.

8           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 16 2018



# H.B. NO. 1762

**Report Title:**

Department of Health; Rat Lungworm Disease; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to DOH for the prevention and eradication of rat lungworm disease.

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