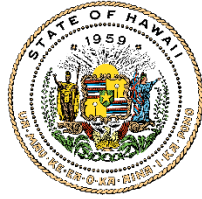


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GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, March 29, 2023
1:01 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46/SENATE RESOLUTION 41
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVENE A FERAL GAME
MAMMAL WORKING GROUP TO FIND, SOLICIT, AND DISTRIBUTE GRANTS FOR THE
CONTROL OF FERAL GAME MAMMALS

Senate Concurrent Resolution 46/Senate Resolution 41 request the Department of Agriculture to convene a Feral Game Mammal Working Group to find, solicit, and distribute grants for the control of feral game mammals. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

One of the Department's top priority issues is feral animal management, with a focus on those feral animals that cause the most harm to native ecosystems, threatened and endangered native species, and natural resources. The proposed working group could bring increased attention to this important issue which may result in increased capacity to implement control actions. Many of the solutions to control damage from feral animals are well known, but new techniques and approaches may be available, and planning and implementation funding is needed. The working group could provide a forum to coordinate with community members on this important topic. There are existing working groups for certain species such as the Maui Axis Deer Task Force. The Department participates in almost all feral species working groups and believes that collaboration is key for feral species management and eradication where desired and possible.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments on these measures.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**MARCH 29, 2023
1:01 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONVENE A FERAL
GAME MAMMAL WORKING GROUP TO FIND, SOLICIT, AND DISTRIBUTE GRANTS
FOR THE CONTROL OF FERAL GAME MAMMALS#**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

SCR46 Requests the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to convene a feral game mammal working group to find, solicit and distribute grants for the control of feral game mammals. The HDOA supports this resolution and comments that the working group will consider amendments to Chapter 183D-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes:

§183D-51 Game mammals defined; exception. (a) For the purposes of enforcing the wildlife laws of the State the following named mammals are hereby designated as game mammals when living in a wild or feral state not under domestication: deer (family Cervidae), pronghorn (family Antilocapridae), goat (*Capra hircus*), sheep (*Ovis aries*), cattle (*Bos taurus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*), and any other mammal that may be or has been introduced into the State and released for hunting and for which a hunting season is established by law or by rule of the department.

The HDOA further comments that the working group will partner with The



Department of Land and Natural Resources to review Chapter 123, Rules Regulating Game Mammal Hunting, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

The working group should include, but will not be limited to representatives from:

Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division;
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Forestry and Wildlife; Invasive Species;
USDA – Food Safety and Inspection Service
University of Hawaii, CTAHR agents from all four counties;
Commercial sector – Maui Nui Venison;
Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species;
Representatives from each County;
Representative from Hunting Clubs from Hawaii Island, Kauai, Lanai, Maui, Molokai, Niihau, and Oahu;
Commodity groups – Hawaii Cattlemen’s Council, Hawaii Sheep and Goat Association;
Farmer Associations – Hawaii Farm Bureau, Hawaii Farmers Union United

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.