



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
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By

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And

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SCR 160 – REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII PROVIDE
INFORMATION TO THE LEGISLATURE ON POSSIBLE TECHNIQUES TO
ELIMINATE MOSQUITOS FROM HAWAII

Chairs Kahele and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Kidani and Riviere, and members of the
Committees:

On behalf of the University of Hawai'i, we would like to submit comments on SCR 160.

The factual basis described in the preamble in this resolution regarding mosquito
elimination and the myriad of positive effects that area-wide mosquito management
would have in Hawai'i is sound.

Faculty and staff at UH Mānoa and UH Hilo are already heavily involved with ongoing
investigations of integrative pest management techniques that have potential to
eliminate mosquitoes from Hawai'i (e.g. http://www.allianceforglobaldevelopment.org/uploads/8/8/3/7/88378936/report_on_mosquito_free_workshop.pdf , <http://www.cpc-foundation.org/news-and-videos.html>). This
involvement includes communication with other State, Federal, and private
organizations as to the feasibility and impacts (e.g. environmental, social, cultural) of
eventual small- and large-scale application of identified techniques.

Faculty and staff time in this current investment are non-trivial, especially for faculty and
staff specialists in the field of mosquito control who are already fully committed to
teaching programs, as well as to finding long-term financial support for research
programs.

The UH Hilo College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management
(CAFNRM) suggests broadening the language of the resolution to include all of UH
faculty and staff with relevant research and academic expertise as responsible entities,
as well as additional organizations that are already heavily involved (e.g. DLNR).

There are many other faculty at UH with expertise in the matters relating to mosquito control. It would be more efficient if UH Hilo be requested to fulfill this request to create a mosquito control feasibility study in Hawai'i, in addition to UH Mānoa, CTAHR and other State agencies as indicated in the language of the Resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my comments.