



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before The  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

By

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And

Maria Gallo, Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean

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### HB 2270 – RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB 2270 which restructures the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council as the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority, attached administratively to the Department of Agriculture, for the enhancement of the State's invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, control, enforcement, and outreach programs; establishes the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority Special Fund and appropriates moneys to that fund to implement the Authority and relevant invasive species projects.

The University of Hawai'i is a member of the interagency Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, and will remain a member under the restructuring proposed in HB 2270. We support this restructuring and attachment to the Department of Agriculture, and believe that it will strengthen efforts to prevent and control invasive pests, plants, and plant diseases in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the effort to testify in support of HB 2270.