



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, April 5, 2024 at 10:20 a.m.

By

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And

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HB 2644 HD2 – RELATING TO LITTLE FIRE ANTS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) appreciates for the opportunity to offer a comment and provides a suggested amendment for HB 2644 HD2, which appropriates funds to support Hawai'i Ant Lab in mitigating the effects of little fire ants in the State. UH hopes that the suggested amendment below will provide a clearer understanding of the relationship between the various organizations involved in addressing the issue of little fire ants across the State.

Section 1, page 2, lines 7 to 12, which currently reads as follows:

“Currently, there are numerous organizations involved in addressing little fire ants across the State, including the Hawaii ant lab, pacific cooperative studies unit at the university of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii department of agriculture, Hawaii invasive species council, and Oahu invasive species committee.”

The suggested amendments are as follows:

“Currently, there are numerous organizations involved in addressing little fire ants across the State, including the Hawaii ant lab and island specific invasive species committees with the pacific cooperative studies unit at the university of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii department of agriculture, and the Hawaii invasive species council~~, and O'ahu invasive species committee~~.”

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.