

Council Chair
Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Alice L. Lee
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Maria E. Zielinski

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 5, 2019

Kelly King

TO: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 201, RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to clarify State, county, and authorized agents' authority to enter private property to control and eradicate invasive species also applies when there is a reasonable suspicion that invasive species are present on that property.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Invasive species cause problems throughout the State, creating both economic and environmental risks, especially to native plants and animals.
2. Authorized agents are professionally trained to help eradicate and control invasive species, and it is imperative they are able to access property where there is a reasonable suspicion that invasive species are present.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.