

Union Calendar No. 166

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1726

[Report No. 118–205, Part I]

To require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2023

Ms. TOKUDA (for herself and Mr. CASE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 22, 2023]

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Continued Rapid Ohia*
5 *Death Response Act of 2023”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 *In this Act:*

8 (1) *RAPID OHIA DEATH.*—*The term “Rapid Ohia*
9 *Death” means the disease caused by the fungal patho-*
10 *gen known as *Ceratocystis fimbriata* that affects the*
11 *tree of the species *Metrosideros polymorpha*.*

12 (2) *STATE.*—*The term “State” means the State*
13 *of Hawaii.*

14 **SEC. 3. COLLABORATION.**

15 *The Secretary of the Interior shall partner and collabo-*
16 *rate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State to ad-*
17 *dress Rapid Ohia Death.*

18 **SEC. 4. SUSTAINED EFFORTS.**

19 (a) *TRANSMISSION.*—*The Secretary of the Interior,*
20 *acting through the Director of the United States Geological*
21 *Survey, and the Chief of the Forest Service, acting through*
22 *the Forest Service Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry,*
23 *shall continue to conduct research on Rapid Ohia Death*
24 *vectors and transmission.*

1 (b) *UNGULATE MANAGEMENT.*—*The Secretary of the*
2 *Interior, acting through the Director of the United States*
3 *Fish and Wildlife Service, shall continue to partner with*
4 *the Secretary of Agriculture, the State, and with local stake-*
5 *holders to manage ungulates in Rapid Ohia Death control*
6 *areas on Federal, State, and private land, with the consent*
7 *of private landowners.*

8 (c) *RESTORATION AND RESEARCH.*—*The Secretary of*
9 *Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service,*
10 *shall continue to provide—*

11 (1) *financial assistance, including through agree-*
12 *ments with the Secretary of the Interior—*

13 (A) *to prevent the spread of Rapid Ohia*
14 *Death; and*

15 (B) *to restore the native forests of the State;*
16 *and*

17 (2) *staff and necessary infrastructure funding to*
18 *the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry to conduct re-*
19 *search on Rapid Ohia Death.*

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