**RESOLUTION NO. 165 23****A RESOLUTION URGING THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO CONVENE A FERAL UNGULATE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP.**

WHEREAS, Senate Resolution No. 41, adopted by the Hawai'i Senate on April 5th, 2023, states that "feral mammals and in particular, feral ungulates, have long been recognized as a significant threat to the integrity and health of native ecosystems in Hawai'i;" and

WHEREAS, Senate Resolution No. 41 further states that "feral ungulates jeopardize the component species that comprise native habitats, making the management of feral ungulates a high priority of the State;" and

WHEREAS, "feral ungulates" refer to those cloven-hooved animals, including deer, pigs, sheep, goats, and cattle, living in a wild and unconfined state; and

WHEREAS, the increased use of fencing across Hawai'i County causes overpopulation among feral ungulates in pristine native ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the sight of wild ungulates, such as mouflon sheep on the slopes of Mauna Kea or goats on the leeward side of Hawai'i Island, are increasingly common and make clear that the management of feral ungulates is an equally high priority for the County of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, with no natural predators, these feral ungulates have proliferated across our island and become a major threat to multiple plant and bird species endemic to Hawai'i, many endangered or exceedingly rare; and

WHEREAS, in late 2022, the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources launched a pilot program intended to protect the native cloud forest area on Kohala Mountain by managing feral pigs, the presence of which accelerates soil erosion, vegetation loss, and sedimentation of water sources; and

WHEREAS, the unknown long-term ecological effects of continued growth in the feral ungulate population require thoughtful, collaborative discussions to develop innovative and effective ways to minimize this problem and its impact on our natural environments and communities while balancing subsistence hunting and trapping; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I that it urges the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i to convene a feral ungulate management working group to be composed of the following members or their respective designees:

- (1) Mayor of the County of Hawai'i;
- (2) Corporation Counsel;
- (3) Animal Control and Protection Administrator;
- (4) Chair of the Game Management Advisory Commission;
- (5) Chair of the Hawai'i State Board of Agriculture;

- (6) The Kohala Center's Kohala Watershed Field Supervisor; and
- (7) Hawai'i Island Branch Manager, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources.

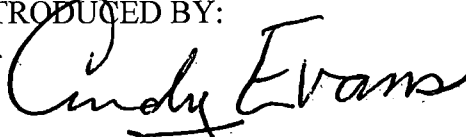
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this working group shall study feral ungulate management, engage with other relevant stakeholders and interested parties, including representatives from the local hunting and trapping community, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and develop strategies 1) to address the impacts of overpopulation, 2) to preserve wildlife corridors, 3) to support subsistence living, and 4) to monitor, contain, relocate, or otherwise manage the feral ungulate populations on Hawai'i County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this working group shall issue to the Council of the County of Hawai'i semiannual progress reports from the date this resolution is adopted and a final report of its findings and recommendations, including suggested programs and funding sources, no later than January 31st, 2025, whereupon the working group shall be dissolved.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Honorable Mitchell D. Roth, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; the Honorable Josh Green, Governor of Hawai'i; the Honorable Mazie Hirono, United States Senator; the Honorable Brian Schatz, United States Senator; the Honorable Edward Case, United States Representative; the Honorable Jill Tokuda, United States Representative; Dawn Chang, Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Sharon Hurd, Chair of the Board of Agriculture; and Abraham Antonio, Chair of the Game Management Advisory Commission.

Dated at _____, Hawai'i, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

INTRODUCED BY:

JP for


 COUNCIL MEMBER, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

COUNTY COUNCIL
 County of Hawai'i
 Hilo, Hawai'i

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESOLUTION was by the vote indicated to the right hereof adopted by the COUNCIL of the County of Hawai'i on _____.

ATTEST:

ROLL CALL VOTE

	AYES	NOES	ABS	EX
EVANS				
GALIMBA				
INABA				
KAGIWADA				
KANEALI'I-KLEINFELDER				
KIERKIEWICZ				
KIMBALL				
LEE LOY				
VILLEGAS				

Reference: C-278/GOEAG

COUNTY CLERK CHAIRPERSON & PRESIDING OFFICER

RESOLUTION NO. 165 23