

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEXTER KISHIDA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**

**FEBRUARY 22, 2024
1:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 308 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2136, HD2
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

Chairperson Yamashita, Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2136, HD2 relating to agriculture. The bill requires the Department of Agriculture to establish and implement a pesticide inspection program to increase compliance with the proper use of restricted use pesticides by agricultural producers. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The programs of the Plant Industry Division are designed to protect the agricultural industries and natural resources from the entry and spread of detrimental insects, diseases, noxious weeds, and other pests and to minimize the adverse effects of pesticides to human health and the environment. The Pesticides Branch is the regulatory authority and state lead agency granted primacy by the United States Environmental Protection Agency through a cooperative agreement to enforce the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

Through this delegated authority and the authority granted by HRS 149A, the Pesticides Branch implements an inspection and compliance program to regulate the



use, distribution, licensing, and certification of pesticides and pesticide applicators statewide. The Department currently has a fully functioning “pesticide inspection program” which inspects and regulates both restricted use and general use pesticides. The Branch is tasked with regulating not only agricultural producers but other users of pesticides such as the landscaping industry, ornamental and nursery industry, and pest control industries. The Department emphasizes that the Pesticides Branch must remain neutral regarding inspection processes and should inspect and regulate all users, no matter what their respective industries.

The Department does not currently have any authority or access to the gross income of all farmers, cooperative associations, or landowners to be able to determine what persons fall within the definition of “agricultural producer” and would be unable to enforce most if not all of this proposed measure.

In calendar year 2023, the Pesticides Branch completed 174 pesticide related inspections statewide, of those 174, 39 were agricultural related inspections and 3 resulted in official notices and violations. Most pesticide law violations are not committed by agricultural producers.

From the date of prohibition on January 1, 2023, to present, the Pesticides Branch has not seen any (mis)applications of the now banned active ingredient Chlorpyrifos. The Commercial Pesticides Disposal Program has properly disposed of approximately 18 Chlorpyrifos containing products in two events and expects to receive more in upcoming events. Effective outreach campaigns and constant reminders from Pesticides Branch staff have essentially eliminated the application of products containing Chlorpyrifos.

Regarding Section 1(a)(3)(c), the Branch withholds all information related to ongoing inspections and cases based on the allowance provided under HRS 92F-13(3) “to avoid the frustration of a legitimate government function.” An inspector, inspection, or other enforcement proceedings may be compromised if outside interference is initiated due to public knowledge of an ongoing inspection. Actions taken to influence the neutrality of the Branch are not tolerated and should not affect the official actions of

the Branch. Once closed, all pesticide inspection results and actions are available through filing a Uniform Information Practices Act request.

If the Department is to increase its enforcement capabilities, the Enforcement Section of the Pesticides Branch requests four (4) additional Environmental Health Specialist IVs, one for each county, one (1) Environmental Health Specialist for the Case Development Section and four (4) vehicles for the new inspectors. The Department estimates payroll and fringe for staffing would cost approximately \$518,176 annually. Four vehicles total for the inspectors would cost approximately \$200,000.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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Kauai

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

The Hawaii Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFUU supports HB2136.**

By ensuring compliance with the appropriate use of these pesticides, we can mitigate the risks associated with their usage and promote sustainable farming practices. This proposed program will not only serve to protect our environment but also ensure our long-term viability by preserving soil quality and the delicate balance of our agricultural ecosystems.

Chlorpyrifos is widely regarded as a pesticide with detrimental effects on human health and wildlife. By maintaining the prohibition on this hazardous substance, we prioritize the safety and well-being of our farmers, consumers, and our diverse ecosystems.

Lastly, we appreciate the provision in HB2136 that emphasizes the necessity of informing the public about pesticide inspection results for agricultural producers. Transparency is paramount in building trust between farmers and consumers, and this measure will empower the public to make informed choices about the products they consume. By ensuring this open flow of information, we can foster a stronger connection between farmers and consumers and work together towards a sustainable and healthy future for our agricultural community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kaipo Kekona, President HFUU/HFUF



TESTIMONY FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 22, 2024

HB 2136, HD2, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **supports** HB 2136, HD2, relating to agriculture. Pursuant to the “Agriculture” section of the official Democratic Party of Hawai'i platform, the party supports “regulations that ensure the ethical and safe production and consumption of all agricultural products.”

In the debate about regulating local agriculture, there is one thing that everyone should agree to condemn: causing harm to other people. Unfortunately, Hawai'i's pesticide code allows chemical abuse to go unchecked. Today, the State Department of Agriculture must warn pesticide abusers before investigating potential legal violations. A farm that fails to take caution when using harmful chemicals, then, may suffer no consequences for its actions, since the warning gives owners time to hide evidence of their crimes. Even when caught, chemical lawbreakers face minimal criminal penalties and paltry fines for their reckless behavior.

In the islands, pesticide abuse poses major health risks. According to an investigation conducted by the *Cascadia Times*, pesticide application by four large agrichemical companies on Kaua'i—Syngenta, BASF Plant Science, DuPont Pioneer, and Dow AgroSciences—is ten times the national average. In their report, *Cascadia* found that a number of restricted use pesticides were overused, including chlorpyrifos, atrazine, and paraquat. A study published in the medical

journal *The Lancet Neurology*, in March of 2014, found that the neurotoxin chlorpyrifos led to developmental disabilities in children. Similarly, atrazine and paraquat are banned in the European Union. Atrazine is known to contaminate groundwater supplies, while paraquat has been linked to the onset of Parkinson's disease. Yet, both herbicides remain widely popular in the United States, where the Environmental Protection Agency prematurely declared with “reasonable certainty” that neither carry a significant risk of harm.

To protect against pesticide drift impacting sensitive educational areas and making children ill—as happened in 2007 at Kahuku High and Intermediate, in which a dozen students fell ill when a nearby sod farmer ignored windy weather while applying pesticides, and in 2008 in Waimea on Kaua'i, where dozens of students got sick after farmers applied pesticide on a nearby seed corn plot—it is incumbent upon lawmakers to prevent pesticide abuse, including harmful pesticide drift (a particularly acute concern for Hawai'i's schools, given our frequently gusting trade winds).

Accordingly, it is essential that we strengthen pesticide inspections, compliance, regulations, and consumer protections, particularly for pesticides like chlorpyrifos, glyphosate, and paraquat. Recent reports have found that **over 215,000 pounds of restricted use pesticides were released across central O'ahu and the North Shore in 2019**, according to the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action. The research is clear: there is no excuse for failing to fully protect public health from the dangerous effects of chemical carcinogens.

In 2018, elected officials passed SB 3095, banning chlorpyrifos and establishing increased disclosure requirements for pesticide applications. It is imperative that political leaders stand up for safety again during this year's legislative session, especially given recent court rulings against agrochemical companies that have demonstrated the link between restricted use pesticides and terminal illness. If you wait, our children will breathe in the fallout for generations to come.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kris Coffield
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Abby Simmons
Co-Chair, Legislative Committee
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House Committee on Finance

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB2136 HD2

Wednesday, February 22nd, 2024 1:00p.m. Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee,

HAPA is testifying in support of HB2136 HD2, with suggested amendments.

HB2136 HD2 requires the Department of Agriculture (DOA) to establish and implement a pesticide inspection program to increase compliance with the proper use of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) by agricultural producers, ensure the continued prohibition on the use of chlorpyrifos, and inform the public of the most recent pesticide inspection results for agricultural producers.

HAPA strongly supports the expansion of the pesticide inspection program and understands that the DOA does its best when enforcing the compliance of Hawai'i pesticide use law. We support the legislature giving the Pesticide Branch of DOA more authority for regulatory inspections to be mandatory.

Given the serious need for improved reporting of RUP use data, we kindly ask that the committee amend this measure back to the version that was amended in AGR to include some improved reporting requirements for the use of RUPs. Specifically the following changes to reporting requirements are suggested:

- Specify location reporting is to be via GPS location, specific geospatial location, rather than TMK parcel number and
- Mandate the development of an online reporting tool for public access to the data and standard reporting requirements that reduces the workload of data processing by the department.

Comprehensive pesticide use data collection is essential to accurately assess risks and ensure that communities are protected from adverse impacts. The US regulatory system often acts after an overwhelming amount of harm has occurred and been proven through long-term studies. **The current reporting regime in Hawai'i does not provide geographically specific enough data to conduct credible public health studies.**



Pesticide exposure can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. RUPs have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops.^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12}

HAPA was founded in response to community members living near large agrochemical fields asking for the right to know what pesticides are being used adjacent to their homes, schools, waterways and other sensitive areas. After over a decade-long effort to provide residents with clear information on what they may be exposed to, the implementation of Act 45 still has not provided communities with that information.

Publicly reported data on each RUP is summarized by island. Any resident who might have concerns about what is being used nearby has no way of gleaning more geographically specific information. This kind of reporting is essentially useless to someone who might be concerned about exposure to drift.

The reporting for RUP (Restricted Use Pesticide) use data in Hawai'i, has only recently started to become available, as of 2019. Because of poor reporting, it has taken

¹ Shelton J et al. Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Prenatal Residential Proximity to Agricultural Pesticides: The CHARGE Study. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2014 122(10) 1103-1109. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/1307044/>

² Shelton J and I Hertz-Picciotto. Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Agricultural Pesticide Exposures: Shelton and Hertz-Picciotto Respond. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2015. 123(4): A79–A80. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4384207/>

³ Eskenazi B et al. Organophosphate Pesticide Exposure and Neurodevelopment in Young Mexican-American Children. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007. 115(5): 792–798. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1867968/>

⁴ Marks AR et al. Organophosphate pesticide exposure and attention in young Mexican-American children: the CHAMACOS Study. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2010. 18:1768–1774. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21126939>

⁵ Gonzalez-ALzaga B. A systematic review of neurodevelopmental effects of prenatal and postnatal organophosphate pesticide exposure. *Toxicol Lett.* 2014. 230(2):104-21 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24291036>

⁶ Roberts EM, et al. Maternal residence near agricultural pesticide applications and autism spectrum disorders among children in the California Central Valley. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007. 115(10):1482-9. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17938740>

⁷ Deziel NC et al. A Review of Nonoccupational Pathways for Pesticide Exposure in Women Living in Agricultural Areas. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2015. 123 (6) 515-524. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/1408273/>

⁸ Simcox NJ Pesticides in household dust and soil: exposure pathways for children of agricultural families. *Environ Health Perspect.* 1995. 103:1126–1134. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1519258/>

⁹ Waimea Community Dust Impacts, Preliminary Evaluation Report, Knox Hoversland Architects LTD. Jim A'Ana et al. v. Pioneer HiBred International, Inc. Feb 24, 2014.

¹⁰ Stemp-Morlock G. Reproductive Health: Pesticides and Anencephaly *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007 Feb; 115(2): A78. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1817703/>

¹¹ Lacasafña M. Maternal and paternal occupational exposure to agricultural work and the risk of anencephaly. *Occup Environ Med.* 2006 Oct; 63(10): 649–656. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2078046/>

¹² Brender JD et al. Maternal Pesticide Exposure and Neural Tube Defects in Mexican Americans. *Annals of Epidemiology*, Dec 2009, 20(1):16-22 <http://europemc.org/article/med/20006272>



considerable effort to make sense of the data, do the calculations, and format them into consistent metrics.

Currently, users are required to report the address, tax map key (tmk), and location of the application site but are not required to provide specific geospatial data that could provide comprehensive mapping of pesticide impacts. This poses difficulties to communities who live adjacent to large tracts of agricultural land. Because TMK sizes vary widely, application data in larger TMK's doesn't provide the level of specificity that communities need, or that can be used to conduct peer reviewed studies.

HAPA worked with our partners to convert the 2019 data into a consistent unit of measurement (pounds), as data is reported in gallons, pounds and ounces, to GIS map the amounts used per TMK, pounds per acre, frequency of application, and combinations of pesticides. We have begun to analyze hotspot areas such as Central O'ahu-North Shore O'ahu for areas of concern and share that data out with those local communities. A recent presentation in Whitmore Village documented by 'Ōlelo can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/3gwVotl-Y1w>

According to the state sponsored Joint Fact Finding Group study, Pesticide Use by Large Agribusinesses on Kaua'i (2016)¹³, "more information is needed about the time and place of applications along with greater oversight to ensure compliance on all Islands.

California appears to lead the nation in studies of chronic health effects and/or associations with pesticide use. They are able to reach this level of scientific inquiry because they require careful reporting of pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities."¹⁴ Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

When Hawai'i became the first state to ban chlorpyrifos, many of the studies conducted in California's central valley provided long-term epidemiological research that proved the neurological harm to fetuses and children. It was due to this research that state regulators and ultimately the EPA banned this dangerous neurotoxin, but only after decades of harm had already occurred. This type of study and research was only possible due to more geographically specific data. Applicators need to record this information to ensure they are properly treating target areas and following the label. It is

¹³ Pesticide Use By Large Agribusiness on Kaua'i: *Findings and Recommendations of the Joint Fact Finding Study Group*; <https://www.accord3.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/jff-kauai-final-report1.pdf>

¹⁴ A Guide to Pesticide Regulation in California: <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/dprguide/chapter9.pdf>



not a matter of whether this data is available, but rather whether the state is willing to require that it be publicly reported.

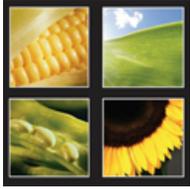
Again while we support the existing pesticide inspections program and its expansion we humbly ask that you consider the amendments suggested here to include improved RUP reporting into this measure.

Please support HB 2136 HD2 Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is positioned above the typed name.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



HAWAII CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

HB2136 HD2 – With Comments
Relating to Agriculture
House Committee on Finance

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024

Time: 1 PM

Place: Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) appreciates the opportunity to provide **comments on HB2136 HD2**, which requires the Department of Agriculture to establish and implement a pesticide inspection program to increase compliance with the proper use of restricted use pesticides by agricultural producers, ensure the continued prohibition on the use of chlorpyrifos, and inform the public of the most recent pesticide inspection results for agricultural producers.

HCIA understands the intent of this measure. We take pesticide use very seriously as the health and safety of our employees and the community is a priority. This bill would help continue educating all restricted use pesticide applicators. The online reporting tool contemplated in this bill would make it an easier and more efficient resource. We do believe the Department of Agriculture may need additional funding to effectively meet the objectives of a pesticide inspection program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy economy.



Food+ Policy Internship 2024

food@purplemaia.org

February 20, 2024

To: Chair Yamashita, Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Finance

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Hawaii Food+ Policy is writing to express our strong support for House Bill 2136 HD-2, which proposes amendments to Chapter 149A of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to establish and enhance a Pesticide Inspection Program in the state of Hawaii. As an organization dedicated to promoting public health, environmental conservation, and sustainable agriculture, we believe that this measure is essential for protecting Hawaii's residents and natural resources.

The establishment of a pesticide inspection program demonstrates a proactive approach to safeguarding public health. By ensuring compliance with proper pesticide use, the program minimizes health risks associated with pesticide exposure for consumers, farmworkers, and nearby communities. Investing in preventive measures now will save costs associated with treating pesticide-related illnesses in the future, benefiting both public health and the state's finances.

HB2136 HD-2 includes provisions for specific geospatial data information about restricted pesticide application locations, enhancing environmental conservation efforts. Targeted monitoring and mitigation in vulnerable areas will help protect Hawaii's delicate ecosystems and preserve its biodiversity. By promoting responsible pesticide use and minimizing environmental impact, the program supports sustainable agriculture practices that benefit both present and future generations.

The requirement for the Department of Agriculture to publicly disclose pesticide inspection results and provide an online reporting tool promotes transparency and accountability within the agricultural sector. Accessible information empowers consumers to make informed choices about the products they consume, while encouraging agricultural producers to adhere to best

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2024, the cohort of interns are undergrads and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.



Food+ Policy Internship 2024

food@purplemaia.org

practices. Transparency fosters trust between consumers and producers, strengthening Hawaii's agricultural industry and enhancing market competitiveness.

Investing in a pesticide inspection program yields long-term benefits for Hawaii's economy, public health, and environment. By prioritizing preventive measures and sustainable practices, the state sets a foundation for continued prosperity and well-being. The program supports resilient agriculture, protects natural resources, and ensures a healthy environment for residents and visitors alike, contributing to Hawaii's reputation as a desirable destination and sustainable food producer.

Supporting HB2136 HD-2 demonstrates fiscal responsibility by allocating resources towards preventive measures that protect public health and the environment. Upholding transparency and accountability builds public trust in government efforts to safeguard the well-being of Hawaii's residents and natural resources. By investing in preventive measures now, the state can avoid costly health and environmental consequences in the future, ultimately saving taxpayer dollars.

In conclusion, Hawaii Food+ Policy urges the House Committee on Finance to support House Bill 2136 HD-2. By establishing a comprehensive pesticide inspection program, Hawaii can protect public health, preserve the environment, and promote sustainable agriculture for generations to come.

Mahalo for your attention to this important matter.

Kawika Kahiapo + Hawaii Food+ Policy Team

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February 22, 2024

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2136
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE
Conference Room 308 & Via Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB respectfully offers the following comments on HB 2136:

- **It is duplicative and unnecessary.** Federal and Hawai'i State laws and regulations on pesticide use are exhaustive and carry enormous penalties and potential jail time for violations. Compliance inspections are robust. HDOA Pesticide Branch already conducts inspections in response to every complaint it receives. It also conducts regularly scheduled inspections of all users of restricted use pesticides.
- **Additional funding would be required** to implement the measures in this bill - money which would be much better spent to ensure that the Branch has the funding to accomplish its considerable objectives, including adequate staffing for thorough review of pesticide registrations, for conducting and finalizing inspections, for ensuring that banned pesticides are not being used or stored, and especially for the education of all pesticide users so that pesticide products are used safely and in compliance with the stringent regulations.
- **The bill raises questions of due process** especially with regard to making public HDOA's investigations before they are concluded, in addition to targeting only "agricultural producers" (farmers') use of pesticides without any justification, while ignoring all other users of pesticides, such as the pest control industries and residential use. Is this warranted by the HDOA data on pesticide use violations?

Pesticide products, whether organic or synthetic, used by farmers or homeowners, are an important part of daily life in Hawai'i. They protect public health, the environment, buildings, crops, and restaurants, and are often needed to combat destructive invasive species.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments and thank you for your continued support of Hawai'i's agricultural community.



Food+ Policy Internship 2024

food@purplemaia.org

February 22, 2024

To: Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Finance

Subject: **IN SUPPORT** of *HB2136 HD2, Relating to Agriculture*

Aloha mai kākou,

We, Hawaii'i Food+ Policy, are writing to express our strong support of HB2136, which suggests the introduction of a Pesticide Inspection Program in Hawaii. This proposal is a vital stride towards ensuring the correct application of pesticides in agriculture, which concerns public health, helps preserve the environment, and enhances transparency within the farming sector.

With a pesticide inspection program in the State of Hawaii'i, will show an increased effort in the support of our local farmers. This program will empower farmers with the necessary resources and knowledge to adhere to pesticide regulations and correct usage. By offering farmers access to such tools and information, the program not only bolsters compliance but also fosters a culture of ethical agricultural practices in our pae 'āina. Hawaii's commitment to a prosperous agricultural sector will be greatly evident in this initiative, which will additionally address local demands from the residents of the state.

By implementing this program, the state showcases its dedication to sustainability, ensuring that our agricultural practices not only thrive but also prioritize the well-being of our environment and communities.

Mahalo for your time and attention on this important issue.

Sincerely

Kawika Kahiapo + Hawaii Food+ Policy Team

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawaii'i communities.

In 2024, the cohort of interns are undergrads and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.



Food+ Policy Internship 2024

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HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2024 1:42:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this measure and the expansion of the pesticide inspection program. Given the serious need for improved reporting of RUP use data, I respectfully request the committee amend this measure to include reporting requirements for the use of RUPs to be monthly rather than annual.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this very important measure.

HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2024 2:33:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clemens Mayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am Clemens Mayer, and I strongly support HB2136 HD2

As someone involved in several aspects of conservation, as well as a practitioner of hana no'eau threatened by invasive species, I know the value in protecting our environment. Therefore, I strongly support this motion to protect the environment of Hawai'i nei from destructive pesticides.

With warmest regards, Clemens Mayer

HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2024 5:02:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2024 8:44:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Klayton Kubo	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Support

HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 7:30:54 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am in support of HB2136 HD2, but prefer HD1 over HD2.

In HD2, the requirement to include specific geospatial data information about specific restricted use pesticide application locations has been removed, and I do believe that keeping it in would have been beneficial.

In previous testimony, some farmers did state that it could open them up to vandalism and theft by exposing the locations of their crops, but in their reporting of the use of pesticides, it doesn't seem to be a requirement to report the types of crops these pesticides are being applied to. Being able to understand exactly where RUP has been used could be vital in understanding its long-term effects on the environment, being able to consider long-term effects on the soil, and having an understanding of locations and areas that may need to be considered for future mitigation and restoration due to use of RUP.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Keoni Shizuma

HB-2136-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 11:47:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beverly Heiser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am in Strong Support of HB 2136 HD2,

This is important to ensure proper use of pesticides so that public safety and the environment is protected.