

JAN 25 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PESTICIDES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that pesticide use is
2 associated with neurological deficits and acute health effects
3 in children. Scientific research conducted by academic
4 institutions and the Environmental Protection Agency has
5 demonstrated that pesticides sprayed on agricultural fields can
6 drift off site, causing adverse health effects. Drift can occur
7 through spray, mist, fumes, or odor during application, or
8 through volatilization of previously treated areas.

9 The legislature further finds that Act 45, Session Laws of
10 Hawaii 2018, created a ban on chlorpyrifos--an excellent example
11 of state regulatory action to protect the public from
12 neurologically damaging pesticides. However, the legislature
13 also finds that the one hundred foot buffer zone for schools is
14 insufficient. Pesticide drift can occur at distances up to 0.8
15 mile, or 4,224 feet, from the site of application. The
16 legislature additionally finds that scientific evidence supports
17 a one-half mile buffer from schools and public parks to prevent



1 acute health effects and long-term neurological impacts on
2 Hawaii's children.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Require the department of agriculture to use
5 consistent units of measurement in its summary to the
6 public on restricted use pesticides used; and
7 (2) Prohibit restricted use pesticides from being applied
8 within one-half mile of schools or state or county
9 public parks.

10 SECTION 2. Section 149A-27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "[~~§~~§149A-27~~]~~ **Public reports; contents.** The department
13 shall produce a summary, for public disclosure, by county, that
14 includes:

- 15 (1) The total quantities used, in a consistent unit of
16 measurement, by federal and state registrations or
17 permit numbers, commercial product names, and active
18 ingredients, for each restricted use pesticide used;
19 and
20 (2) The amount of area in the county in which the
21 restricted use application occurred."



1 SECTION 3. Section 149A-28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[~~§~~§149A-28~~§~~] **Buffer zones.** Beginning January 1,
4 [~~2019,~~] 2024, no person shall apply a restricted use pesticide
5 on or within [~~one hundred feet~~] one-half mile of a school
6 property during normal school hours~~+~~ or a state or county
7 public park; provided that this section shall not apply to whole
8 structure fumigation; provided further that if this section is
9 determined to conflict with any pesticide application
10 information listed on the pesticide label, the more restrictive
11 provision shall apply."

12 SECTION 4 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1524

Report Title:

Pesticides; Buffer Zones; Restricted Use Pesticides; Consistent Unit of Measurement; Department of Agriculture

Description:

Requires the department of agriculture to use consistent units of measurement in its summary to the public on the amounts of restricted use pesticides used. Effective 1/1/2024, establishes a one-half mile buffer zone for pesticides around schools and state and county public parks.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

