

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

MARCH 10, 2025
1:01 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 224 & VIDEOCONFERENCE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1497, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1497, HD1 relating to agriculture. The bill requires and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticide reporting and appropriates funds to convert temporary environmental health specialist III positions into permanent positions. The Department is in **strong support** of this bill.

In 2020-21, the Department developed an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticide reporting pursuant to Section 149A-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, but has not had consistent staffing to conduct outreach and education for full implementation of the tool. The two temporary positions provided in Act 45, SLH 2018, have turned over six (6) times since their establishment. Converting the positions to permanent status will provide stability for staff and allow the Pesticides Branch to complete the outreach required to fully implement the online restricted use pesticide reporting tool.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





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March 10, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON HB 1497, HD1
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:01 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Richards, 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.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports HB 1497, HD1, which would require and appropriate funds for HDOA to develop and adequately staff an online restricted use pesticide reporting system.

HFB recognizes and supports the robust and evidence-based regulation of pesticides used to maintain public health, agricultural production, and environmental protection. The current system of reporting could be more efficient and better facilitated by an online system that is easier to navigate for the department and users.

We support measures that would give HDOA increased funding and capacity to perform its mandates, especially including pesticide use and safety education to ensure safeguards to protect farmers, the public, and our fragile island ecosystems.

Thank you for your continued support of Hawai'i agriculture.



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Negus Manna
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India Clark
North Shore, O'ahu

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Wai'anae, O'ahu

Ted Radovich
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, O'ahu

Natalie Urminska
Kaua'i

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee,

The Hawai'i 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. **HFU supports HB1497.**

HB1497 addresses crucial needs within Hawaii's agricultural sector by mandating the creation of an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticides. This tool can significantly enhance transparency and accountability in pesticide application, allowing for better tracking and governance of pesticide use across the state. By facilitating real-time reporting and data collection, this initiative not only strengthens environmental safeguards but also supports the sustainable practices that Hawaii's farmers are committed to upholding. The easy access to accurate information about pesticide use will empower farmers to make informed decisions, align with regulatory requirements, and maintain consumer and community trust in agricultural products.

Furthermore, the allocation of funds to convert temporary environmental health specialist III positions into permanent roles ensures that there is a stable, knowledgeable workforce dedicated to monitoring and enforcing pesticide regulations. This permanence is essential for fostering long-term environmental health and agricultural sustainability. By investing in these positions, Hawaii is making a meaningful commitment to safeguarding the health of its ecosystems, agricultural workers, consumers, and the general public. These measures collectively bolster the agricultural sector's resilience while promoting innovative, responsible stewardship of Hawaii's natural resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin
Advocacy Director
Hawai'i Farmers Union



Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: HB1497 HD1 with amendments

Monday, March 10th, 2024 1:01 p.m. Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

HAPA supports HB1497 HD1 which requires and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticide reporting. Appropriates funds to convert temporary environmental health specialist III positions into permanent positions. We also suggest the following amendments:

- 1) Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile (640 acres) to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile. If farms are smaller than one square mile, allow reporting by TMK. According to the most recent USDA survey of Hawai'i farms, less than 3% of farms are larger than one square mile.¹
- 2) Make the online reporting data available to the public via the portal on a localized basis (1 square mile or TMK if smaller than one sq. mile)

Hawai'i's Current RUP Reporting Regime Does Not Support Public Health Assessment:

Pesticide exposure can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause

As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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 provide geographically specific enough data to conduct credible public health studies.**

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.

1

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2022/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Hawaii/cp99015.pdf



The Need for More Geographic Specificity

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. harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops.^{2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13}

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 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. California currently requires reporting within a square mile,

² 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/>

³ 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/>

⁴ 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/>

⁵ Marks AR et al. Organophosphate pesticide exposure and attention in young Mexican-American children: the CHAMACOS Study. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2010. 118:1768–1774. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21126939>

⁶ 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>

⁷ 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>

⁸ 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/>

⁹ 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/>

¹⁰ Waimea Community Dust Impacts, Preliminary Evaluation Report, Knox Hoversland Architects LTD. Jim A'Ana et al. v. Pioneer HiBred International, Inc. Feb 24, 2014.

¹¹ 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/>

¹² Lacasaña 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/>

¹³ Brender JD et al. Maternal Pesticide Exposure and Neural Tube Defects in Mexican Americans. *Annals of Epidemiology*, Dec 2009, 20(1):16-22 <http://europepmc.org/article/med/20006272>



which allows enough specificity for peer-reviewed epidemiological studies to be conducted to meaningfully assess risk and health impacts.

Reporting by Square Mile Applies to Very Few Farms in Hawai'i

It is important to note that one square mile is equal to 640 acres. According to the USDA's most recent survey of farms in Hawai'i in 2022, the average farm size in Hawai'i is 150 acres. Less than 3% of farms in Hawai'i are at least one square mile or larger¹⁴. Therefore more granular reporting would have minimal impact on the sector.

The Need for Consistent Units of Measurement

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>

Each RUP formulation requires a different calculation to convert usage data into a consistent unit of measurement. This is important to allow for an "apples to apples" comparison of RUP usage in each community and statewide. Having all of Hawaii's RUP usage data converted pounds also allows for comparison with other states lbs/acre rates. For example, by converting all the 2019 data into pounds we could compare Hawaii's fumigant usage with California and other major agriculture producing states. Hawai'i usage appears to be some of the highest in the nation.

Given that the Hawaii Dept of Agriculture already does the work of "cleaning" the data (converting it all to pounds) for island-wide reporting, we respectfully request that the "cleaned" or converted data be made available to the public on a local (by square mile or TMK, whichever unit is more specific) basis, rather than islandwide. This work is extensive and very time consuming and should not need to be duplicated by community members simply seeking transparency.

Why Improved Data is Critical to Assessing Risk

According to the state sponsored Joint Fact Finding Group study, Pesticide Use by Large Agribusinesses on Kaua'i (2016)¹⁵, "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

¹⁴ https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2022/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Hawaii/cp99015.pdf

¹⁵ 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>



pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities."¹⁶ 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 not a matter of whether this data is available, but rather whether the state is willing to require that it be publicly reported.

Furthermore, if funding is allocated to create an online reporting system, that data should be made available to the public on a localized basis. The intent behind the passage of Act 45 was to provide localized data to communities who are seeking information on what is being applied near residential areas and sensitive environments. The island-wide reporting does not provide the level of specificity communities are seeking. Given that HDOA already converts all of the formulations to pounds per TMK, that information should be made available to the public via this online reporting tool.

Creating an Online Reporting Tool Will Streamline Data Collection and Save Resources:

The creation of an online portal for RUP users to upload their usage data and for public reporting would require an initial investment, but ultimately would save considerable time and resources once established. Formulas for converting data into a consistent format/unit of measurement could be automated, users could simply input usage data into the portal and community members interested in local RUP usage could easily search for what is being used in their local community.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written below the word 'Respectfully,'.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

¹⁶ A Guide to Pesticide Regulation in California: <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/dprguide/chapter9.pdf>



HAWAII CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

HB1497 HD1 – With Comments
Relating to Agriculture

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Date: Monday, March 10, 2025
Time: 1:01 PM
Place: Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) appreciates the opportunity to provide **comments regarding HB1497 HD1**, which requires and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticide reporting and converts temporary environmental health specialist III positions into permanent positions.

HCIA appreciates this measure's attempt to streamline the reporting process and make it more effective. A user-friendly online reporting tool should help with producing more timely submissions, less paperwork, and efficient data collection. Reducing administrative burden, particularly for smaller farmers, allows the agriculture sector to put greater resources towards growing their businesses and expanding the industry as a whole.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB1497 HD1.

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.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2025 12:42:35 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Testifying for Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition **SUPPORTS** this bill to fund consistent staffing for full implementation of the on-line tool providing the public accurate information on restricted use pesticide applications.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 9:11:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard , Vice chair Richards, and Members of Committee,

My name is Susan RobertsEmery, Co Chair of the Green Party of Hawai'i. On behalf of the GPH we would ask that you Please Pass HB1947 HD1, with amendments.

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. I have felt the effect of pesticides first hand in my family. We need to protect our communities from the rise in cancers.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies.

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Susan RobertsEmery
Green Party of Hawai'i
Paauilo

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 9:26:21 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurel brier	Testifying for Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Provide critical protections to our people and our environment from Restricted Use Pesticides via HB1497 and include important measures that California has found effective in reporting and making available to the public

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 1:44:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimdonghyeon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 6:28:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

****Testimony in Support of House Bill 1497****

Aloha e nā Luna o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka‘āinana,

I am Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have lived for 45 years, deeply rooted in the ‘āina that has sustained my family and community across generations. It is from this vantage point—both personal and ancestral—that I offer my resolute support for House Bill 1497, an Act Relating to Agriculture. This bill represents a critical step toward enhancing transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the management of restricted use pesticides, a matter of profound consequence for the health of our lands, waters, and people.

The legislature’s recognition of Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, codified as section 149A-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, underscores an existing mandate: all users of restricted use pesticides must report their usage annually to the Department of Agriculture. Yet, the efficacy of this requirement hinges on its implementation. HB 1497 astutely addresses this by establishing an online reporting tool—a mechanism that promises to streamline compliance while ensuring that data critical to public health and environmental stewardship is neither obscured nor delayed. The absence of such a system to date has been a glaring omission, one that risks disenfranchising communities like mine from the knowledge necessary to safeguard our wellbeing.

As a Native Hawaiian, I am acutely aware of the disproportionate burden that pesticide misuse places on our rural and Indigenous populations. Kahalu‘u, nestled along O‘ahu’s windward coast, is surrounded by agricultural lands where the application of restricted use pesticides can precipitously affect our watersheds, marine ecosystems, and food systems. The lack of accessible, centralized reporting has historically left us vulnerable—uninformed of the chemicals infiltrating our environment and powerless to mitigate their impact. HB 1497’s online reporting tool rectifies this by empowering the Department of Agriculture to collect and disseminate data efficiently, fostering a transparency that is not merely bureaucratic but fundamentally democratic.

Moreover, the bill’s appropriation of funds to convert two temporary Environmental Health Specialist III positions into permanent roles is a pragmatic acknowledgment of the sustained effort required to oversee this program. Temporary staffing is antithetical to the long-term vigilance demanded by pesticide regulation—a domain where consistency and expertise are non-negotiable. By securing these positions, HB 1497 ensures that the Department is equipped to

uphold its kuleana to protect our ‘āina and its people, aligning with the Hawaiian ethos of mālama, or care for the land.

The urgency of this measure cannot be overstated. Hawaii’s reliance on agriculture, coupled with its fragile island ecology, renders the unchecked use of restricted pesticides a peril we can ill afford. HB 1497 is a forward-thinking intervention that marries technological innovation with administrative fortitude, offering a model of governance that honors both efficiency and equity. I implore the legislature to pass this bill and appropriate the necessary funds without delay, lest we perpetuate a status quo that compromises the vitality of our communities and the integrity of our natural heritage.

Me ka ‘oia‘i‘o a me ke aloha,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 1:46:56 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg Crawford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 2:08:26 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annalise Hart	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 3:27:17 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert H. Pahia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Potential chronic medical issues can arise when exposed to RUP's . The dynamic wind conditions in Hawaii are a cause for concern when RUP's are applied

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 4:11:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eliel Starbright	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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. Eliel ,Kapaa

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 4:48:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

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

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1. Mahalo.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 5:36:20 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcia Kemble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Greetings Committee Chair and Committee Members,

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process. However, I am in favor of the following amendments, which will increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies:

Suggested Amendments:

- Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
- Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Mahalo.

Marcia Kemble

Makiki

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 5:52:35 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emelia Briscoe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.

Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 7:52:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Dorsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support HB1497 HD1 with the following amendments:.

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however the above amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies.

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Thnak you

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 8:40:31 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kate Paine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Critical to keep forever chemicals from further build-up in soil, and therefrom in water table.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:22:23 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members,

I am writing to respectfully ask that you support HB1497 HD1 which requires and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticide reporting.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:31:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 5:05:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Luthy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:43:35 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan, Lawai, Kauai

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 8:50:14 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Heithaus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. I have personally seen the terrifying effects of accidental exposure to RUPs. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2025 8:57:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Lukens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:34:22 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I support this bill HB1497 HD1 but would suggest adding two further amendments to it:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Mahalo.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:45:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joell Edwards	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 12:21:23 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Faccenda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to track RUP. Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however I suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies.

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 2:16:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jotis Russell-Christian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

Providing an online reporting portal is an important step towards streamlining the RUP reporting process, however we suggest the following amendments to increase public transparency and to require a geographic specificity of reporting that will allow for credible public health studies. Therefore we suggest the following amendments:

Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 12:54:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Massey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB 1497 with the amendments mentioned below, to require reporting of use of Restricted Use Pesticides. We need to protect our citizens and monitor the effects of these pesticides. I live downwind of a major biotech operation in the family home that we've had since before the biotech fields were there. I am concerned for my health and the health of my family members and neighbors.

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

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Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Rita Massey Kihei

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:21:57 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
robin knox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. As an environmnetal scientist I know the harm these pesticides can cause. Our families have a right to know what they are being exposed to, and that the state is enforcing the laws on usage

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 7:37:12 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noreen Dougherty	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1497 HD1. I am a Kauai resident and the RUP drift is a huge problem. We must stop poisoning our residents, especially if it is being done by community members that can easily overlook the 'proper' use and wind direction and strength of the winds. Restricted use means exactly that RESTRICT the use. I am surrounded by neighbors that use pesticides and I had a state licenced childcare here on the property. Mahalo nui loa for being able to encourage you to support HB 1597 HD1.

Noreen Dougherty

Kapaa, Kauai

HB-1497-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 7:46:19 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/10/2025 1:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticide exposure from off target drift can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops. As such, comprehensive pesticide use data 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.

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Suggested Amendments:

1. Include provisions which require reporting of RUP usage within a square mile to provide more geographic specificity and consistency. California currently requires reporting within a square mile.
2. Make the online reporting data available to the public and reported out by square mile, per California regulations.

Please support HB1497 HD1.

Thank you,
Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona