

GM 505 Testimony

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March 5, 2013

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON GM 505 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOHN MCHUGH.

Room 229 2:45 PM

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Dean Okimoto, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,950 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community

HFBF is in strong support of the nomination of John McHugh, PhD to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

As the Chair of the HFBF Environmental Stewardship Committee, Dr. McHugh has worked with the major farming interests on all of the islands and with smaller farmers and ranchers to assist them in understanding and complying with pesticide regulations. His familiarity with local farming practices will help him provide valuable input to the efforts of Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

Dr. McHugh is respected for his impressive credentials as an agriculture leader, having served on numerous agriculture boards and through his involvement as a member of many agriculture organizations. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, as a former member of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Pesticides (1999-2003), as Director and Treasurer for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation Service District Board, Director/Board member for the Oahu Resource Conservation Development Council, member of the HDOA Plant and Animal Advisory Committee, and a member of the Advisory Committee for Leeward Community College's Plant Biology and Tropical Agriculture Program.

Dr. McHugh also has fist hand agricultural experience having worked for Sumida Farm, Inc. (watercress production), Waikele Farms (watermelon, tomato, cucumber, bell peppers, and head cabbage), the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association (now the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center), and currently DuPont Pioneer (Kunia site).



Dr. McHugh's extensive background and experience in Hawaii's agricultural industry would be an asset to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to support the nomination John McHugh, PhD to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. We hope that you will give Dr. McHugh's nomination to this position serious consideration.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our testimony on this important matter.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
To:	AGL Testimony	
Cc:	scottemcfarland@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for GM505 on Mar 5, 2013 14:45PM	
Date:	Monday, March 04, 2013 6:12:06 PM	

GM505

Submitted on: 3/4/2013

Testimony for AGL on Mar 5, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott McFarland	Individual	Support	No

Comments: John McHugh is well qualified to serve. The State will be served well by his appointment. Scott McFarland Farmer Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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