# SB 804

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor



**SCOTT E. ENRIGHT** Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

# TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

# BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

JANUARY 30, 2017 1:15 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 224

SENATE BILL NO. 804 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 804. The purpose of this bill is to increase the amount of pesticide use revolving fund can maintain in order to allow the department to have the necessary funds to carry about its statutory mandate. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this bill.

The pesticide use revolving fund is comprised of funds collected by the Department from pesticide license fees, restricted use pesticide dealer license fees, and training fees. The purpose of the revolving fund is to support the pesticide program's registration and licensing, certification and education, and compliance monitoring activities. The revolving fund may also be used to establish pesticide training workshops, educational programs, development of integrated pest management strategies, and other services to benefit the user of pesticides, such as the structural pest control industry, agricultural pest control industry, and consumer users of pesticides. This may include collection, disposal, and recycling of pesticide containers and other pesticide services.



#### Page 2

Section 149A-13.5(e) currently allows the pesticide revolving fund to keep all unobligated, unencumbered, and unexpended funds remaining in the fund up to \$250,000. The proposed Act would increase this amount to \$1,000.000.

Increasing the cap from \$250,000 to allow the department to keep \$1,000,000 will increase the ability of the department to conduct training and outreach. Pesticide outreach and education is critical in ensuring pesticides are not misused, as the misuse of pesticides is not only illegal, it may endanger the health of people and the environment. There has been an increase in demand for the Department to assist in the disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers. With this increase, the department will be better able to conduct and coordinate these disposal services. These additional funds can also be used to supplement environmental studies, such as groundwater reviews and water sampling activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Testimony of Kawika Winter, Ph.D. **Strongly Supporting SB 804** Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

January 28, 2017

Aloha Chair Gabbard and the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for SB 804 relating to pesticides. As a member of the Joint Fact Finding Group, which worked tirelessly and diligently on determining the facts surrounding the issue of pesticide us in agribusiness on Kaua`i, I **strongly support** this bill which provides a funding pathway for several key recommendations of our report.

Pesticide use is a rapidly evolving component of agribusiness, especially in light of chemical composition and application technology. In order for the State to ensure that its obligations to protect human safety and environmental health are upheld, we must have monitoring programs in place to ensure that we have the data needed to make good policy decisions. Passing SB 804 would be a tremendous step in that direction.

With my name and my intergrity, I stand behind the conclusions and recommendations of the JFF report. I emplore you all do do whatever you can to enacts its recommendations via this bill and beyond.

Me ka `oia`i`o,

KAWIGHINAP

Kawika Winter, Ph.D. Member, Joint Fact Finding Group (Pesticide Use in Agribusiness on Kaua`i)

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#### **OUR MISSION**

HCIA is a Hawaiibased 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.

#### TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In Support of SB 804 Relating to Hawaii Pesticides Law Increase pesticide use revolving fund monies

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT January 30, 2017, 1:15 p.m. Conference Room 224

Chair Gabbard and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) 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.

HCIA supports SB 804, which seeks to increase the amount of pesticide use revolving fund monies the Hawaii Department of Agriculture can maintain (HDOA).

HCIA recognizes the importance of pesticides as a tool to protect both agricultural product and Hawaii's citizenry. We support efforts that help maintain and assess the proper regulation and enforcement of these tools. HCIA supports fully funding HDOA and the pesticide use revolving fund that maintains registration and licensing, certification and education, and compliance monitoring activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennette Misalucha Executive Director



#### Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment

#### Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action strongly supports: SB804

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and members of the committee,

My name is Anne Frederick and I am the Executive Director for the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA). HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization. HAPA emerged out of the community-led movement on Kaua'i to enact greater regulations around pesticide use and disclosure, which led to the passage of Bill 2491. HAPA's fair and sustainable food systems work focuses on protecting Hawai'i's environment and the health of its residents from the potentially harmful pesticide impacts. HAPA engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work.

I am testifying in strong support of SB804 increasing the ceiling of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000.

Given the concerns that residents across our state with have expressed around large pesticide users operating near schools, homes and other sensitive areas and management challenges of this issue faced by the SDOA, it is clear that additional resources are needed to properly staff and manage enforcement efforts.

We also request that additional funds be allocated to conduct much needed and long overdue testing of water, soil and air to determine the degree of pesticide drift now occurring in neighboring communities. I strongly urge the committee to amend SB804 as may be needed to allow funds from the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund to also be utilized by the Department of Health or other appropriate entity to conduct testing and evaluation centered on the health impacts of intensive pesticide use in impacted communities and adjacent natural habitats.

The State/County sponsored Joint Fact Finding study group (JFFSG) did an exhaustive 18 month review of existing health and pesticide data on Kauai and issued its report in 2016.

The data gathered during the JFFSG process indicate that Kauai west side residents suffer from numerous health conditions at higher rates than residents living anywhere else on Kauai.

These health conditions/indicators include: Developmental Delay (3 to 8 year olds), ADHD, Easter Seals Enrollment (age 0 to 3), Infant Mortality, Mothers Pre-Existing Health Conditions, Cancer Mortality, Stroke Mortality, Admissions for Bacterial Pneumonia, COPD or Asthma (elderly), Dialysis Patients (per 1,000) and other disabilities.

These are all conditions or health indicators in which the incidence of occurrence by people living on the west side exceed all other Kauai communities.

This is why it is so important that the recommendations put forward by the State government funded JFFSG report actually be funded and implemented by the State. The comprehensive and regular testing of soil, air and water is essential to determining the degree of health risks that are associated with the pesticide use and drift that we know is occurring.

SB804 is an important step toward fulfilling the objectives and recommendations contained within the State sponsored Joint Fact Finding study group (JFFSG) report and I strongly encourage this committee to pass this measure and other related measures today.

Best Regards,

Anne Frederick Executive Director, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, January 27, 2017 1:42 PM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/27/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: Let's support HDOA to do it's job to the best of it's ability. Mahalo!

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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Submitted on: 1/28/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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January 27, 2017

The Honorable Mike Gabbard Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment Hawaii Senate Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201 Honolulu, HI 96813

#### **RE: SB 804; RELATING TO PESTICIDES (SUPPORT)**

Dear Chairman Gabbard:

On behalf of the Western Plant Health Association (WPHA), I am writing to express our **support** of SB 804, which would allow the raising of the amount of funds the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) is able to retain in the pesticide use revolving fund. WPHA represents the interests of fertilizer and pesticide manufacturers, agricultural biotechnology providers, and agricultural retailers in Hawaii, California, and Arizona.

Pesticides provide an important tool in protecting agricultural commodities, as well as the homes and health of the citizens of Hawaii. Without these tools, pests can destroy crops, damage dwellings, and introduce serious diseases like asthma, salmonella, and allergic rhinitis which affect the most sensitive population groups. To assure that HDOA has the resources available to oversee and enforce regulations that help assure the safe use of products we believe raising the pesticide revolving fund is needed. HDOA assesses products for Hawaii specific concerns, regulates their safe application and use, investigates concerns of potential miss-use, and educates users and other interested parties on their safe and legal use. SB 804 will allow HDOA to thoughtfully assess and utilize resources to more fully fulfill their statutory obligations.

WPHA **supports** the goals of SB 804 to enhance the efforts of DOA in assuring that all pesticide products are assessed and used safely. We thank the committee for its commitment in helping HDOA fulfill its mandate. For these reasons WPHA supports SB 804 and asks the committee for a **yes** vote. We thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Renee Pinel President/CEO



#### Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment

#### Hawai'i Center for Food Safety strongly supports: SB804

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and members of the committee,

My name is Dr. Ashley Lukens and I am the Director for the Hawaii Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 800,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i. On behalf of CFS and our members, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this important bill.

I am writing in strong support of SB804, which increases the amount of monies from the pesticide use revolving fund that the Department of Agriculture may retain to carry out its statutory mandate. We cannot expect appropriate capacity at the regulatory level if we chronically underfund our agencies.

Additionally, I would suggest that this committee revise the bill and relevant provision (HRS §149A-13.5) of Hawaii pesticide law to allow some of the monies to be directed to Department of Health for staffing and monitoring capacity in the areas of toxicology and epidemiology. Insofar as the increasing community advocacy around pesticides is directly related to their impacts on human health, and assuming this bill is a response this pressure, it seems prudent to ensure that the DOH is also sufficiently resourced to respond to these concerns. Having the pesticide users, through their licensing fees, cover the cost of their externalities is just common sense economics.

Respectfully,

Ashley Lukens, PhD Director, Hawaii Center for Food Safety

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Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support people & 'āina over toxic profit.

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Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Boyar	Farm Lovers Farmers Markets	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support an increase in funding for the HDOA to monitor and enforce pesticide regulations.

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.

**Date:** January 29, 2017

Subject: Support for S.B. 778, S.B. 779, and S.B. 804 (Pesticide Exposure and Safety)

From: J. Milton Clark, Ph.D.

University of Illinois School of Public Health Former Senior Health and Science Advisor U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Chicago

The passage of S.B. 778, S.B. 779, and S.B. 804 are necessary (1) to determine by the collection of environmental and human data (e.g., urine testing) if residents living near agricultural operations (e.g., west side Kauai residents) are at risk from exposures to pesticides and (2) to provide adequate buffer zones for pesticide applications as adopted by the State of California. As the former senior health and science advisor for U.S. EPA in Chicago, I led or participated in more than 150 federal investigations regarding human exposures to toxic chemicals and pesticides working directly with agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and health and environmental departments in the States of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio. In 2015-2016, I served as a pro bono liaison expert for the JFF committee.

Only a portion of the 2016 JFF recommendations has been fulfilled by State agencies to address public health issues. *Passage of these bills will fund critical data collection (soils, dusts, air, and human biological) to assess if unsafe pesticide exposures are occurring and to prevent future potential pesticide exposures as strongly recommended in the 2016 JFF report.* The JFF properly concluded there is inadequate pesticide data to determine if residents most proximal to agricultural operations (e.g., Waimea area) are at risk. It is not technically difficult to collect the proper data to assess risks to public health as such information has been collected and evaluated in numerous published studies (see references).

Peer reviewed literature indicates associations with adverse health effects (e.g., autism, autism spectrum disorders, ADHD, fetal defects) and proximity (up to 0.9 mile) to California agricultural fields or known pesticide exposures within ¼ mile. Some of these California studies directly measured the amount of pesticides in the human biological samples (e.g., urine, blood) finding strong statistical correlations with adverse health effects in children. There are numerous areas in Hawaii where residential properties are within ¼ mile of major agricultural operations using highly toxic pesticides. *The JFF report strongly recommended the collection of urine samples to assess human exposure, but no funding mechanism has been established by the State. Without environmental and urine data from communities nearest agricultural fields it will not be possible to assess the risks of agricultural pesticides to public health and put the proper measures (e.g. buffer zones) into place that will protect public health.* 

On Kauai and at other Hawaiian locations a number of restricted use pesticides, with known adverse human health effects documented in the literature, are frequently applied to fields. Chlorpyrifos, associated with adverse health effects in children, is heavily used, as is glyphosate, now classified by IARC as a probable human carcinogen. It has been well documented that dusts and soils are transported from fields into nearby residential properties. A comprehensive review of 35 publications (published 1995–2013) found that

agricultural drift, as measured by proximity to treated farmland, was associated with higher detection rates and concentrations of common agricultural pesticides in residential indoor dust. Photographs of some Waimea agricultural operations have shown wind blown dusts from fields and photographs document deposited soils/dusts (e.g., found on window sills) on nearby residences as well as interior dust accumulation possibly emanating from proximal fields.

The historical incidents at Waimea Canyon Middle School (WCMS) and the 2016 chlorpyrifos pesticide exposure case involving workers for Syngenta resulting in a \$5 million EPA fine, demonstrates that serious pesticide safety issues remain. For the record, there is no technical evidence to support the invalid conclusion that stinkweed caused the adverse health effects among children at Waimea Middle School. Data from an unpublished UH study clearly shows that methyl isocyanate, a toxic air component of stinkweed, was 230 times below a California Air Health Criteria and 12 times lower than at at active stinkweed site on Maui. Some have suggested that mass hysteria (psychogenic illness) as the probable cause of the WCMS events. In my 30 years investigating chemical-related health cases in conjunction with state and federal health agencies we never came across a mass psychogenic event. The repeated events at the Kauai school, the severity of the symptoms, and no such determination of hysteria by attending health providers make the psychogenic hypothesis unlikely.

Definitive conclusions could have been more readily drawn in the WCMS episodes and in the recent 2016 Syngenta case if blood and urine samples had been analyzed for pesticides. Pesticide residues may have been missed during the WCMS analytical testing because comprehensive pesticide analyses were not conducted. Field test kits to assess pesticide exposure (cholinesterase depression) should be provided at health care centers near major agricultural operations and a State funding mechanism is needed to test blood and urine in unusual, acute pesticide episodes. Human samples should be sent to CDC for testing and environmental samples to EPA certified mainland laboratories to verify results obtained by State laboratories. *At this time, it is unclear if HDOH and HDOA will fund and implement these much needed approaches as routinely done in California.* 

The concentrations of pesticides in air, soils, and exterior/interior dusts in Hawaiian residential areas nearest agricultural operations are unknown. Based upon my experience and a review of the west side Kauai situation, an environmental sampling study of residential properties and testing of urine samples, should be undertaken by State agencies in conjunction with national pesticide experts, especially those at the University of California at Berkeley. The passage of bills S.B. 778, S.B. 779, and S.B. 804 will fund those studies as recommended in the JFF report. Without passage of these bills, pesticide issues will continue to arise and it will not be known if the public is adequately protected.

J. Milton Clark, PhD. 1/29/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
keolalani koaloha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Mather	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:09 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	jahniappleseed@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:22 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	sunnysavage@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 4:56 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	bmurphy420@mail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, I SUPPORT SB804 regarding pesticides. Hawaii must move ASAP to organic farming methods, for the health of our people, and the wealth of our economy. GROW ORGANIC!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 3:40 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	bioniclove@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
adrian blackhurst	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Support Organic Farming!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 3:35 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	mary@mauivortex.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Mary Overbay	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, I support SB804 regarding pesticides. Hawaii must move ASAP to organic farming methods, for the health of our people, and the wealth of our economy. GROW ORGANIC!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:21 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	ashman.janet@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Department of Agriculture Pesticide branch has a critical role in regulating pesticide use in the State. It needs adequate funding to fulfill its complex mandates. I support this measure so long as the agency itself concurs that it will be of benefit.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, January 28, 2017 10:48 PM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/28/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair and Committee, I strongly support this Bill since the DOA is severely underfunded and Big Agriculture know this and uses it to their advantage. Make them pay into the Department that regulates them. They are making huge profits and getting away with poisoning our water, land, oceans and air. Enough already! Mahalo, Ms. Barbara Barry

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, January 28, 2017 5:32 PM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/28/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, January 28, 2017 3:13 PM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	jennymaliahudson@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/28/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
jenny hudson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, January 28, 2017 10:13 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	garylhooser@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM

Submitted on: 1/28/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Gary Hooser	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Senator Gabbard and Committee Members, I am testifying in strong support of SB804 increasing the ceiling of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000. Given the current conversation occurring in our state with regards to increasing community concerns around large pesticide users operating near schools, homes and other sensitive areas and management challenges of this issue faced by the SDOA, it is clear that additional resources are needed to properly staff and manage enforcement efforts. In addition, additional funds are needed to conduct much needed and long overdue testing of water, soil and air to determine the degree of pesticide drift now occurring in neighboring communities. I strongly urge the committee to amend SB804 as may be needed to allow funds from the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund to also be utilized by the Department of Health or other appropriate entity to conduct testing and evaluation centered on the health impacts of intensive pesticide use in impacted communities and adjacent natural habitats. The State/County sponsored Joint Fact Finding (JFF) group did an exhaustive 18 month review of existing health and pesticide data on Kauai and issued its report in 2016. The data gathered during the JFF process indicate that Kauai west side residents suffer from numerous health conditions at higher rates than residents living anywhere else on Kauai. These health conditions/indicators include: Developmental Delay (3 to 8 year olds), ADHD, Easter Seals Enrollment (age 0 to 3), Infant Mortality, Mothers Pre-Existing Health Conditions, Cancer Mortality, Stroke Mortality, Admissions for Bacterial Pneumonia, COPD or Asthma (elderly), Dialysis Patients (per 1,000) and other disabilities. These are all conditions or health indicators in which the incidence of occurrence by people living on the west side exceed all other Kauai communities. To be clear we are dealing with small numbers, statistical significance is thus impossible to determine with any certainty and the cause of these elevated rates has not been determined. More data is needed. This is why it is so important that the recommendations put forward by the State government funded JFF report actually be funded and implemented by the State. The comprehensive and regular testing of soil, air and water is essential to determining the degree of health risks that are associated with the pesticide use and drift that we know is occurring. SB804 is an important step toward fulfilling the objectives and recommendations contained within the State sponsored Joint Fact Finding (JFF) report

and I strongly encourage this committee to pass this measure and other related measures today. Thank you, Gary Hooser Private Citizen

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:23 AM
То:	AEN Testimony
Cc:	patriciablair@msn.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB804 on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM*

Submitted on: 1/29/2017 Testimony for AEN on Jan 30, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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