
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND HEALTH TO EVALUATE
CALIFORNIA'S CURRENT AND PENDING REGULATIONS ON
CHLORPYRIFOS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF
SIMILAR REGULATIONS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, in 2016, the United States Environmental
2 Protection Agency released a revised human health risk
3 assessment for the chemical pesticide chlorpyrifos, confirming
4 that it does not have any safe uses; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency found that:

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8 (1) There is no safe level of human exposure to food and
9 drinking water containing chlorpyrifos;
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11 (2) Chlorpyrifos remains at unsafe levels as far as three
12 hundred feet beyond the edge of a field where it is
13 has been applied, due to pesticide drift;
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15 (3) Chlorpyrifos has been detected at unsafe levels in the
16 air at schools, homes, and communities in agricultural
17 areas;
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19 (4) Workers who mix and apply chlorpyrifos are exposed to
20 unsafe levels of the pesticide even with the use of
21 the maximum level of personal protective equipment and
22 engineering controls;
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24 (5) Farms often allow field workers to re-enter fields
25 within five days after spraying chlorpyrifos despite
26 unsafe exposure levels persisting, on average, for
27 eighteen days after application; and
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1 (6) Chlorpyrifos is acutely toxic and associated with
2 neurodevelopmental harms in children, causing
3 intelligence deficits and attention, memory, and motor
4 problems; and
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6 WHEREAS, on December 15, 2017, the Office of Environmental
7 Health Hazard Assessment of the California Environmental
8 Protection Agency added chlorpyrifos to the list of chemicals
9 known to the State of California to cause reproductive and
10 developmental toxicity; and
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12 WHEREAS, the State of California Developmental and
13 Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee also noted that
14 chlorpyrifos causes reproductive and developmental toxicity and,
15 starting December 15, 2018, all California businesses with ten
16 or more employees will be required to provide a clear and
17 reasonable warning before knowingly exposing anyone to
18 chlorpyrifos above a certain level determined by California's
19 Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture testified in a joint
22 House of Representatives hearing before the Committee on
23 Agriculture and the Committee on Energy and Environmental
24 Protection that the Department of Agriculture considers
25 California as a model for Hawaii with regard to pesticide
26 regulation and use; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Departments of
31 Agriculture and Health are requested to jointly evaluate
32 California's current and pending regulations on chlorpyrifos and
33 develop recommendations for similar regulations applicable to
34 Hawaii; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Departments of Agriculture and
37 Health are requested to evaluate any negative impact on Hawaii
38 if the Environmental Protection Agency regulations on
39 chlorpyrifos are not implemented; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Departments of Agriculture and
42 Health are requested to submit a report of their findings and



recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
the Regular Session of 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board
of Agriculture and the Director of Health.

OFFERED BY:

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MAR 09 2018

