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March 1, 2018

TO: Honorable Donavan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Stacy Helm Crivello

Councilmember

DATE: Thursday, March 1, 2018

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF SB 229, RELATING TO VECTOR CONTROL

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is appropriate moneys for twelve permanent full-time equivalent positions in the vector control branch of the department of health.

I **strongly support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. It is crucial for the Department of Health to rebuild their vector control program as it is the State's first line of defense against pests and diseases that can impact the health of our people, environment and economy.

Strivello

- 2. For diseases where there is no effective cure like dengue fever, vector control remains the only way to protect human populations. Public health is of utmost importance and this funding will help ensure that vectors of new human and animal diseases will not become established in Hawaii.
- 3. Small communities like Molokai have been directly impacted by the lack of immediate accessibility of vector control assistance. I personally have had to hire pest control to help kupuna deal with rodent control.

For the foregoing reasons, I **strongly support** this measure.

2018SB229Support-VectorControl

<u>SB-229</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2018 4:34:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2018 12:05:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: