JOSH GREEN Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

> **MORRIS M. ATTA** 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 PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

MAY 13, 2020 1:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 016

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 568 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ARNOLD HARA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 568. This measure seeks to confirm Arnold Hara to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Mr. Hara has been serving on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides since 2015 and has proven to be an important voice from the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation. His expertise is derived from his professional career as an ornamental entomologist focusing on the development of pest management programs for tropical floricultural crops, including anthuriums, orchids, flowering gingers, birds of paradise, heliconia, protea and foliage plants. Dr. Hara also develops integrated pest management for new invasive pests in the tropical landscapes. His experience is critical and a true benefit for the State of Hawaii as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 1:35:40 PM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

May 13, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 568

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, Gubernatorial Nominee, ARNOLD HARA, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

> Room 016 1:00 PM

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

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports the nomination of Dr. Arnold Hara as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

The committee serves a critically important role in Hawaii agriculture as it is tasked to advise and assist the State Department of Agriculture in developing and revising laws and rules regarding pesticides. In addition, the committee serves to advise the Department on pesticide problems, an issue which has recently become of greater interest to the general public.

As a farm producer-focused UH CTAHR extension research entomologist, Dr. Hara is uniquely qualified to represent our organization of farmers. He has an in-depth working knowledge of the intricate Hawaii pesticide laws and regulations, as well as those of the Environmental Protection Agency. Having held the difficult-to-acquire Category 10 Commercial Applicator Certification, he is experienced not only in the written laws but also in the practice and application of the law. Dr. Hara has been instrumental in researching pesticides to ensure that they are both effective and safe to use, allowing our local farmers to have successful crops and remain viable.

For over 30 years, Dr. Hara has served Hawaii by developing pest management programs that minimize the use of chemical pesticides. Also, his work has helped to control the invasive species that can devastate our farms, communities, and watersheds. One of his

primary objectives is to assist the Department in promulgating new and/or revised pesticide regulations that enable the use of safer and more effective new products and methods to help Hawaii battle against the continuous influx of new invasive species that significantly impact agriculture and our fragile endemic flora and fauna while assuring that these products do not harm non-target organisms and our environment. Dr. Hara has been recognized and honored by our state invasive species council, along with many other state and national organizations.

Thank you for your support of Hawaii's farmers and of your consideration of Dr. Arnold Hara for reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, to represent the Hawaii Farm Bureau.

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

I support the nomination of Dr. Arnold Hara as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

As a farm producer-focused UH CTAHR extension research entomologist, Dr. Hara is uniquely qualified to represent our organization of farmers. He has an in-depth working knowledge of the intricate Hawaii pesticide laws and regulations, as well as those of the Environmental Protection Agency. Having held the difficult-to-acquire Category 10 Commercial Applicator Certification, he is experienced not only in the written laws but also in the practice and application of the law. Dr. Hara has been instrumental in researching pesticides to ensure that they are both effective and safe to use, allowing our local farmers to have successful crops and remain viable.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

County Farm Bureau 6170 Hauiki Rd Unit G Kapaa, HI 96746 jerrysfarmkauai@gmail.com

LARRY JEFTS FARMS, LLC PO BOX 27 KUNIA, HAWAII 96759 (808) 688-2892

GM 568, Arnold Hara Advisory Committee on Pesticides Senate AEN Committee Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:00 pm Conference Room 016

Written Testimony by: Larry Jefts Position: Support

Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate AEN Committee:

I am Larry Jefts, owner and operator of Larry Jefts Farms, LLC, which is part of our family-run business of farms on Oahu and Molokai, under the administrative umbrella of Sugarland Growers, Inc. We have more than 35 years of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu. I am a volunteer director for the West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). I am also the Treasurer for the Hawaii Farm Bureau.

Your support and confirmation of Arnold Hara to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides is requested.

Arnold Hara is a well-respected, credible scientist and problem solver for agriculture's management of pests and invasive species. His educational background includes a BS, MS, and PhD in Entomology, with emphasis on integrating invasive pest management using both pesticides and nonchemical control strategies.

Of note, he is very familiar with the Hawaii Pesticide Law through his training and as a qualified Category 10 licensee. This supplements his knowledge of the law with the actual application of the law. His education, training and experience makes Arnold Hara well qualified to advise the Pesticide Branch on registering safer new alternatives that are a critical part of the farmer's toolbox for pest management.

Thank you for your consideration of support for Arnold Hara.

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 11:09:45 AM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 11:35:20 AM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 3:11:16 PM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As owner of Performance Landscapes, we continually look for guidance on the safe and effective use of pesticides for our staff and clients. As Committee Chair of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii's pesticide training committee, I see this need in the landscape industry, farming and the community in general. I took courses from Dr. Hara, and he has been a valuable resource volunteering for the LICH pesticide training committee.

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 3:35:16 PM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole K Galase	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 4:13:23 PM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Weidenbach	Individual	Support	No

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/11/2020 6:29:53 PM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	Yes

<u>GM-568</u> Submitted on: 5/12/2020 3:09:56 AM Testimony for AEN on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Takemoto	Individual	Support	No

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

I support the nomination of Dr. Arnold Hara as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

As a farm producer-focused UH CTAHR extension research entomologist, Dr. Hara is uniquely qualified to represent our organization of farmers. He has an in-depth working knowledge of the intricate Hawaii pesticide laws and regulations, as well as those of the Environmental Protection Agency. Having held the difficult-to-acquire Category 10 Commercial Applicator Certification, he is experienced not only in the written laws but also in the practice and application of the law. Dr. Hara has been instrumental in researching pesticides to ensure that they are both effective and safe to use, allowing our local farmers to have successful crops and remain viable.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Roy Asao 1323 Olino St Honolulu, HI 96818 rasao777@aol.com

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Ron Kauha'aha'a Manager Nutrien Ag Solutions PO Box 86 Kunia, HI 96759 ron.kauhaahaa@nutrien.com

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Stephanie whalen Ex Dir HARC PO Box 64 Kunia, HI 96759 whaleinn1944@gmail.com

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Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Iris Mizuguchi PO Box 253 Kunia, HI 96759 irisymiz@gmail.com

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Randy Cabral KHK RANCH LLC PO BOX 337 VOLCANO, HI 96785 kaiwiki.1970@gmail.com

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

James Fang owner Hilo Orchid Farm Hawaii, Inc. HC 1 Box 9 Mountain View, HI 96771 james@hawaii.rr.com

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Sandi Kato-Klutke Retired 6266 Kawaihau Rd Kapaa, HI 96746 skatoklutke@gmail.com

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Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Jade Pacheco Owner Hawaiian Paradise Flowers, LLC PO Box 158 Kilauea, HI 96754 hpfllc@hawaiiantel.net

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Warren Watanabe PO Box 253 Kunia, HI 96759 warrenmcfb@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

Aileen Yeh Owner Aileen's Nursery 942 W Kawailani St Hilo, HI 96720 ayeh@hawaii.rr.com

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Sincerely,

Glenn Toyama P,VP,S,T Hawaiian Flower Gradens PO Box 5 Mountain View, HI 96771 gtoyama67@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

John Gordines TROPICAL FLOWERS EXPRESS 6721 Kawaihau Rd Kapaa, HI 96746 gordines@kauaiflowers.com

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Sincerely,

Alvin Tsuruda Owner Waihale Products 41-910 Mahiku Pl Waimanalo, HI 96795 Waihale@hawaiiantel.net

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Dean Okimoto Chair Hawaii Agricultural Foundation 41-574 Makakalo St Waimanalo, HI 96795 deanjokimoto@gmail.com

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Mahalo!

Sincerely,

LUANA BECK Owner Hooluana Ranch PO Box 711510 Mountain View, HI 96771 holuanaranch@yahoo.om

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

I support the nomination of Dr. Arnold Hara as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

As a farm producer-focused UH CTAHR extension research entomologist, Dr. Hara is uniquely qualified to represent our organization of farmers. He has an in-depth working knowledge of the intricate Hawaii pesticide laws and regulations, as well as those of the Environmental Protection Agency. Having held the difficult-to-acquire Category 10 Commercial Applicator Certification, he is experienced not only in the written laws but also in the practice and application of the law. Dr. Hara has been instrumental in researching pesticides to ensure that they are both effective and safe to use, allowing our local farmers to have successful crops and remain viable.

For over 30 years, Dr. Hara has served Hawaii by developing pest management programs that minimize the use of chemical pesticides. Also, his work has helped to control the invasive species that can devastate our farms, communities, and watersheds. One of his primary objectives is to assist the Department in promulgating new and/or revised pesticide regulations that enable the use of safer and more effective new products and methods to help Hawaii battle against the continuous influx of new invasive species that significantly impact agriculture and our fragile endemic flora and fauna while assuring that these products do not harm non-target organisms and our environment. Dr. Hara has been recognized and honored by our state invasive species council, along with many other state and national organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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Elton Mow Orchid Plantation, Inc. Orchid Plantation, Inc. 17-318 Ipuaiwaha St Keaau, HI 96749 orchidplantation@gmail.com

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Jason Moniz PO Box 253 Kunia, HI 96759 jasonmoniz73@gmail.com

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Helena Miguel Mfg Technician Bayer PO Box 183 Kaunakakai, HI 96748 helena.miguel@bayer.com

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Melvin Kunitake owner melvin kunitake farm PO Box 135 Holualoa, HI 96725 melvin.kuni@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

Kurt Bosshard KRB LLC 3144 Elua St Lihue, HI 96766 kboss@aloha.net

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Sincerely,

Michelle Starke 91-1010 Waikoihi St Ewa Beach, HI 96706 robert.starke.007@gmail.com

Arnold Hara

Testimony for the Confirmation to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides

1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?

I wish to become a member of the Pesticide Committee because of my extensive experience with pesticides as a Professor, Researcher and Extension Specialist at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for over 35 years. This background will enable me to give sound advise to the Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Branch on all aspects of pesticide regulation and the safe and effective use of pesticides in the State of Hawaii.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?

My role and responsibilities are to provide administrators and managers of the Pesticide Branch with advise that assures the safe and effective use of pesticides to control serious invasive pests that negatively impact agriculture, the environment, animal and human health.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

I received my Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Entomology from University of Hawaii at Manoa, and completed by Doctor of Philosophy in Entomology with a minor in nematology from the University of California-Davis in 1982. I served the State of Hawaii for over 37 years as a Professor of Entomology managing and eradicating destructive invasive species with safe and effective pesticides and nonchemical controls.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

With my extensive educational background and experience with pesticides, I will be able to give accurate advise and assist the Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Branch in developing or revising laws and rules for the safe and effective use of pesticides in the State of Hawaii by commercial pesticide applicators, farmers and ranchers with no negative effects on our fragile native environment and the health of our residents and visitors of Hawaii.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?

1. Being born, raised, educated and employed in Hawaii, I truly understand the negative effects of invasive species in Hawaii and the enormous need for safe and effective pesticides to manage these invasive species. I will provide the Advisory Committee with decisions that assure effective use of pesticides with no negative effects of the flora and fauna of Hawaii.

2. With my education and experience, I am very knowledgeable of he Hawaii Pesticide Laws and the rules and regulations of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). I will be able to advise the Department on assuring that decisions are following all county, state, and federal pesticide rules and regulations.

3. I held a Commercial Applicator Certification in Category 10, Demonstration, Research and Instructional Pest Control and have submitted numerous Emergency Use Permit (EUP) and Special Local Need (SLN) registrations. I have generated many efficacy and phytotoxcity data for insecticides to support national and supplemental labels, and special local need registrations in the State of Hawaii. With my extensive experience with the safe and effective use of pesticides, in Hawaii, I will be able to provide the most sound advise to the committee.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?

I have worked closely and directly with the manager and staff of the Pesticide Branch on pesticide registrations and pesticide label interpretation. The committee will benefit from my experience with the Pesticide Branch by providing advice that assures proper decisions in pesticide regulations by the Pesticide Branch.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any conflict of interests in serving on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.