

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2993**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2713
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2713, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PESTICIDE BUFFER ZONES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is, beginning January 1, 2027, to prohibit the application of restricted use pesticides within a half-mile radius of elderly health care facilities, with certain exemptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute, Green Party of Hawai'i, Kanalani Ohana Farm, Kauai Women's Caucus, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, one member of the Kaua'i County Council, and twenty-six individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; CropLife America; and Sugarland Farms, Inc.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and American Chemistry Council.

Your Committee finds that scientific evidence has shown that pesticide exposure is associated with increased risks for certain



diseases, including asthma, neurodevelopmental harm, endocrine disruption, and cancer. Additionally, the elderly are particularly vulnerable because they often experience overlapping health conditions due to advanced age. This measure will establish stronger buffer zones to prevent illness amongst the elderly caused by chemical toxicity from the application of pesticides.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2713, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



