

GM 535

LINDA LINGLE
Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008
2:45 PM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 535
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DARREN J. STRAND,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the nomination of Darren Strand for the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Mr. Strand has been nominated by the pineapple industry. From 2002 to 2006, Mr. Strand worked as the field maintenance superintendent at Del Monte Fresh Produce, Hawaii, supervising all chemical applications. He is currently the director of farm operations for Maui Pineapple Company. He is a director of the Maui County Farm Bureau. He also holds a pesticide applicator certification for private applicators.

As director of farm operations, Mr. Strand has overall responsibility for pesticide use at Maui Pineapple Company. He holds a private applicator certificate to apply restricted use pesticides and also holds subcategory certificates for agricultural fumigation and chemigation. He has direct experience dealing with applicator certification issues and some of the issues with implementing rule changes that require special knowledge when using agricultural fumigants and applying pesticides through irrigation systems. His appointment to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides is strongly recommended.



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

APRIL 1, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY ON GM 535
DARREN J. STRAND

Chair Tokuda and Committee Members:

My name is Alan Takemoto, Executive Director, of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, which is the largest non-profit general agriculture organization representing approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members statewide.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF) strongly supports the nomination of Darren J. Strand to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Mr. Strand's extensive background and understanding of Hawaii agriculture would be an asset to the State of Hawaii if appointed to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Mr. Strand's first hand experience and familiarity with local farming practices will help him provide valuable input to the efforts of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to support the nomination of Darren J. Strand to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. We hope that you will give Mr. Strand's nomination to this position serious consideration.



Maui County Farm Bureau

*An Affiliate of the American Farm Bureau Federation and Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation
Serving Maui's Farmers and Ranchers*

April 1, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY ON
GM 535
Darren J. Strand

Chair Tokuda and Committee Members:

My name is Warren Watanabe, Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau, a non-profit general agriculture organization and an affiliate of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.

MCFB strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Darren Strand to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Mr. Darren Strand comes from a strong agricultural background. His knowledge and first hand experience in "working in the fields" implementing pesticide practices will provide valuable input through the decision-making processes during the Committee meetings.

We respectfully request your support in appointing Mr. Strand to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Thank you for this opportunity to provide this opinion.



Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc.

February 22, 2008

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
State Capitol, Room 218
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Darren Strand

Darren Strand is the Director of Farm Operations for Maui Pineapple company Ltd. He is responsible for the crop establishment and maintenance for nearly 4,000 acres of pineapple. He is very knowledgeable experienced in agricultural applications and pesticide use. In his capacity he has dealt with Ag chemical producers, suppliers, growers, community members and environmental special interest groups.

Mr. Strand is a well balance and level headed thinker /problem solver. If selected, Darren Strand will do well to serve on the state Advisory Committee on Pesticides and I highly recommend him for this important committee.

Sincerely,

Wesley M. Nohara
General Manager
Kapalua Farms, ML&P Inc.

March 25, 2008

Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 318
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda,

My name is Calvin H. Oda, Senior Vice President for Product Development, Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd. As a four term member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, I highly recommend that Mr. Darren Strand be appointed to the Committee as the Pineapple Industry representative.

Over the years, the Pineapple Industry has been recognized as one of the leaders in Hawaiian Agriculture. Darren represents the next generation of farm managers who will help to preserve and protect important agricultural lands in the State of Hawaii.

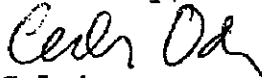
Darren's experience in managing land preparation, irrigation, and field maintenance activities at Maui Pineapple Company provides him with invaluable first hand knowledge. Areas of Darren's work activities that will allow him in being an active contributing member of the Committee includes:

- Registration and re-registration of pesticide active ingredients in pineapples;
- Routine contact with EPA, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, basic registrants and pesticide distributors in the State of Hawaii;
- Implementation of pesticide regulations, agricultural worker protection, protection of the environment, and risk mitigation including mitigation of potential residential and school exposure; and
- Membership in non-profit industry organizations such as the Maui Farm Bureau and Central Maui Soil Conservation Service.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 870-1788 or e-mail at

coda@mlpmaui.com. Thank you for your support of Darren's nomination to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

Sincerely,



Calvin Oda
Senior Vice President, Product Development
Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd.