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From: Joel Fischer [jfischer@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2008 1:04 PM
To: PSMtestimony
Subject: HB2076; PSM; 2/14; 11AM; Rm 309

Importance: High

HB 2076, Relating to Depleted Uranium
PSM; Chair, Rep Evans
HLT; Chair, Rep Green
EEP; Chair, Rep Morita

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL.

To date, we have no idea how much depleted uranium there is in our lands and atmosphere. The military consistently has lied about the use of depleted uranium, and we cannot trust them to do the monitoring.

We owe the people of Hawai'i nei a transparent, fair and objective reporting system. We also owe our people the truth about threats to their health.

Thank you for introducing and hearing this important bill.

Aloha, joel

Dr. Joel Fischer, ACSW
President, 19-3, Democratic Party

Professor
University of Hawai'i, School of Social Work Henke Hall Honolulu, HI 96822

"It is reasonable that everyone who asks justice should DO justice."
Thomas Jefferson

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Never, never, never quit."
Winston Churchill

HPACH
919 4th Street
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

February 14, 2008

Representative Cindy Evans, Chair
Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair
And Committee Members On Public Safety & Military Affairs
Representative Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Representative John Mizuno, Vice Chair
And Committee Members On Health
Representative Hermina M. Morita, Chair
Representative Mele Carroll, Vice Chair
And Committee Members On Energy & Environmental Protection
House of Representatives, The Twenty-Fourth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008, State of Hawaii

Subject: HB 2076 Relating To Depleted Uranium, "SUPPORT"

ALOHA Kakou,

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney. As Sovereign of the Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii, I SUPPORT the passage of HB 2076.

Depleted Uranium may be the latest killer of the native indigenous Hawaiian people of Hawaii. All over the world Depleted Uranium is the silent killer of many people. The silent killer of this century.

Once more HPACH strongly Supports the passage of HB 2076.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to present testimony on this Bill.

ALOHA KUU AINA HAWAII



Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, SOVEREIGN

Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii

Email: HIAHAWAII@ao.com



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs
P. O. Box 1135
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

TESTIMONY OF LEIMOMI KHAN, PRESIDENT
IN SUPPORT OF

HB-2076 - RELATING TO DEPLETED URANIUM

**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS;
HEALTH AND ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Hearing date and time: Thursday, February 14, 2008, 11:00 a.m.

February 11, 2008

Aoha Chairs Evans, Green and Morita; Vice-Chairs Har, Mizuno and Carroll, and Members of the Committees.

The Association is a growing national confederation of fifty-three Hawaiian Civic Clubs, located throughout the State of Hawai`i and in the States of Alaska, California, Colorado, Illinois, Nevada, Utah, Virginia and Washington State. It initiates and works to support actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities, and in particular, the culture and welfare of the Native Hawaiian community.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2076, which would require the Department of Health to establish air sampling stations to monitor for levels of depleted uranium. While the Association supports this measure, we believe the state of Hawai`i needs to do much more to protect its citizens.

On October 19, 2007, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs passed Resolution 2007-013, "Calling on the State of Hawai`i to Enforce Legislation Prohibiting the Use of Depleted Uranium Within the Boundaries of Ka Pae `Aina o Hawai`i", all of Hawai`i.

The Association's resolution states that depleted uranium is often found in the residue of exploded and unexploded ordnance, and that the United States military has used depleted uranium extensively in Hawai`i, harming Hawai`i's citizens, `aina (land), kai (ocean) and wai (water). The resolution also states that depleted uranium is considered both a toxic and radioactive hazard that requires long term storage as low level nuclear waste.

Further, the spreading toxicity of depleted uranium, which has a half-life of 4.4 billion years, threatens life everywhere and destroys the environment and food supplies, especially in communities near depleted uranium weapons plants, testing facilities, bases, arsenals, and waste storage facilities.

To "safeguard the future of humanity", former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is promoting an international appeal to ban the use of depleted uranium weapons because they are "an unacceptable threat to life, a violation of international law and an assault on human dignity, which calls for an unconditional ban forbidding research, manufacture, testing, transportation, possession and use of depleted uranium for military purposes".

It also calls for "the immediate isolation and containment of all depleted uranium weapons and waste, the reclassification of depleted uranium as a radioactive and hazardous substance, the cleanup of existing depleted uranium-contaminated areas, comprehensive efforts to prevent human exposure and medical care for those who have been exposed.

The significant military presence in Hawai`i has prompted advocates concerned about its use to call for transparency regarding past and current uses of depleted uranium in and around ka pae `aina o Hawai`i, and monitoring of any proposed uses by military forces. Air sampling is a good idea and the Association supports it, but we would also call for transparency regarding past and current use as well as monitoring of any proposed future uses by the military.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS
and
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
and
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing
Thursday, February 14, 2008
11:00 a.m.

Testimony by: Ralph C. Boyea, Legislative Advocate, Hawai'i County Council

Testimony in favor of HB 2076 RELATING TO DEPLETED URANIUM

Chairperson Evans
Chairperson Green
Chairperson Morita and Honored Representatives,

On behalf of the Hawai'i County Council, I urge you to pass House Bill 2076. House Bill 2076 requires that the Department of Health establish air sampling stations to monitor for levels of depleted uranium.

In 2005 the U.S. Military discovered that spotting rounds containing depleted uranium had been used [fired] at Schofield Barracks on Oahu and at the Pohakuloa training facility on the island of Hawai'i. The military reports that these spotting rounds were used in training activities sometime between 1960 and 1968. Weapon casings and "fragments" of these depleted uranium containing casings have been found at both of these facilities. While the military contends that these fragments are far too large to travel any distance in the air, there appears to be no sure way of knowing how small some of these 'fragments' may be. The smaller they may be, the greater the possibility that they could travel considerable distances in the air if the ground where they are located is disturbed.

The military contends that depleted uranium is 40% less radioactive than uranium. It is still radioactive enough to be controlled by the nuclear regulatory commission {NRC}.

Members of the public have expressed concerns that depleted uranium in the air is the cause of a number of health problems. Depleted uranium has been implicated in Gulf War Syndrome and other illnesses of unknown origin in our military personnel.

It is more than appropriate to monitor the air around the facilities where DU was used. Air sampling should be continuous, over an extended period of time.

We urge you to support HB 2076.

Support for HB 2076

Hearing: Thursday, Feb. 14, 2008 11 AM Rm #309

Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee

Energy and Environmental Protection Committee

Health Committee

Aloha Chairs: Reps. Evans, Morita, Green, and Committee Members,
I urge you to please support and strengthen HB 2076

1. The full extent of military radiation contamination at Hawaii live-fire ranges is unknown. Given the history of military deception, the extent of contamination is likely to be much greater than what's been admitted to date.

2. Military radiation contamination has been confirmed at Schofield Barracks and Pohakuloa Training Area. All present and former live-fire ranges could be contaminated and should be tested for contamination.

3. Military radiation contamination, especially with depleted uranium (DU) munitions, pose significant hazards from inhalation.

4. Air monitoring should be established 360 degrees around confirmed sites to see if the radiation is moving off site. The monitoring should be continuous with a paper trail and available to citizens in real-time via home computers. It is the spikes of elevated radiation that are a particular concern. Scientific studies have confirmed DU moving more than 26 miles off site in Albany, NY.

5. Senator Daniel Inouye should assist with providing federal funds to deal with a federal problem. However, there should be transparent independent testing of not only the air, but water and soil. After all, the U.S. military is spending \$2 billion a day. There should be funds available to see if citizens are being contaminated by their own radioactive weapons.

6. There should be an immediate halt to all live-fire and any activity that creates dust at all ranges where radiation has been confirmed, since such activities could result in the spread of airborne particles which are particularly hazardous if inhaled.

Mahalo for your concern and assistance in this matter.

Jim Albertini, taro farmer and peace activist

P.O. Box AB Kurtistown, Hawaii 96760

808 966-7622 email ja@interpac.net

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2076
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPLETED URANIUM

PRESENTATION TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE
ADJUTANT GENERAL
February 14, 2008

Chair Evans, Chair Green, Chair Morita, and Members of the Committee:

I am Major General Robert G. F. Lee, State Adjutant General. I am testifying on House Bill 2076. This bill requires the Department of Health to establish air sampling stations to monitor levels of depleted uranium.

We support the intent of House Bill 2076 so long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

The United States Army has not shipped, stored, or used any ammunition in Hawaii that contained depleted uranium since 1962. It should be noted that spotting rounds with depleted uranium has been limited to the range impact areas only and not on the maneuver training areas that are used by our soldiers.

Since the discovery of depleted uranium, the U. S. Army has started and continues to monitor and remediate their training areas and weapon ranges. They have been very open in the discussions regarding depleted uranium at the ranges and are working with the State Department of Health, other federal organizations, and have kept our communities informed through town hall and formal meetings.

Additionally, the Department of Health conducted periodic background readings, usually on a monthly basis, in the populated areas around Pohakuloa Training Area, and the readings have been normal.

Chair Evans, Chair Green, Chair Morita, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Are there any questions?

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Health
House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

HB 2076 RELATING TO DEPLETED URANIUM

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health
February 14, 2008

11:00 a.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The department supports the intent of the bill but has strong reservations.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** The proposed activities are not budgeted. Cost estimate for implementation is
3 \$1.64 million (See Addendum).

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill requires the department of health to collect data on levels of
5 contamination by depleted uranium by establishing air sampling stations located adjacent to and
6 downwind from military facilities in Hawaii where depleted uranium was used.

7 The department supports the continuous air monitoring and routine analysis of samples to
8 identify and quantify any depleted uranium released from military facilities and traveling into adjacent
9 communities. We are happy to consult with qualified experts. We do not see a need to adopt the
10 proposed rules; the department can address the issues of access, standards, and chain of custody with its
11 existing authorities. However, aside from limited air sampling conducted under EPA, there are no funds

1 in the department to implement these activities. Any appropriations should not adversely affect the
2 priorities in the executive supplemental budget priorities.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Addendum to
Department of Health

Testimony

on HB2076

BUDGET:

Assume Three Army Posts Requiring Air Monitoring; Five Monitoring Stations Per Post; Air Filter Collection Twice A Week; A Total Of 30 Air Filters Collected Weekly For 52 Weeks Per Year; Total Of 1560 Air Filters Annually. No Accredited Radiochemistry Laboratory In Hawaii To Conduct Analysis; Analysis By A Mainland Laboratory Costs \$1,000 Per Sample;

$3 \text{ Posts} \times 5 \text{ Stations/Post} \times 2 \text{ Collections Weekly} \times 52 \text{ Weeks/Year} \times \1k Per Sample
= \$1.56 Million.

One Radiation Staff Member Will Travel To Kona Weekly.

Travel: $\$150 \text{ Per Week} \times 52 \text{ Weeks} = \$7,800$

Salary for 1 FTE = \$75,000

Grand Total: \$1.64 Million

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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