

TESTIMONY
GM 438

Presentation before the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture
February 25 2009
Wesley Otani
Advisory Committee on Pesticides

Chair Hee, members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs, thank you for this opportunity to present background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

I was born and raised here in Hawaii. I grew up in Maui on our family's vegetable farm in Kula. I attended and graduated from Maui High School and the University of Hawaii Manoa, receiving a Bachelors of Science Degree in Horticulture.

The position on the Advisory Committee on Pesticide would give me the opportunity to represent the Hawaii Pest Control Industry in regards to the use of pesticides in the State of Hawaii. The role and responsibility of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides is very critical as how pesticides impact our limited natural resources of Hawaii, such as water, air, and land. Pesticides under the right stewardship saves lives, stops epidemics, protects structures, creates higher crop yields, and create a better lifestyle for both residents and visitors to Hawaii.

My personality, background, education and experience give me the needed tools to make sound decision on the use of pesticides in Hawaii. Being a father of two girls, it is important that we preserve Hawaii for the future generations to enjoy.

As a manager for the largest Termite and Pest Control Company, I bring to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides ways on how business adapts in using less amount of pesticides to control pest with a more effective methods of controls. I plan to accomplish on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides the belief of utilizing better stewardship of pesticides through educations, research and policy making.

I do not foresee any conflict of interest serving on this committee. If so I would make it known to the chair and the committee.

I welcome the challenges ahead. I ask for you to support my nomination to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

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