

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO MONITOR PESTICIDE DRIFT.

WHEREAS, Hawaii does not have a regulatory structure in place to monitor pesticide drift; and

WHEREAS, drift from restricted use pesticides may have lingering effects on the environment long after the initial exposure; and

WHEREAS, pesticide drift is governed by a variety of factors which determine how much of the pesticide application deposits on surfaces where contact with residues can eventually lead to indirect exposures; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency classifies pesticides as restricted use pesticides if they are determined to cause "unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" when used "without additional regulatory restrictions"; and

WHEREAS, an example of pesticide drift is children playing on lawns that are next to treated fields and where residues have deposited; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics in a report entitled "Pesticide Exposure in Children," which reviewed 195 medical studies, stated that pesticides may be linked to childhood cancers, neurobehavioral and cognitive deficits, adverse birth outcomes, and asthma; and

WHEREAS, residents of three Hawai'i counties have demanded that their local governments take action under the counties' authority to regulate agriculture, ensure the welfare of its residents, and fulfill its duty to protect public resources; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, that the Department of Health is requested to study and monitor pesticide drift; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is requested to take air samples for scientific testing of pesticides; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is requested to summarize its findings in a report to be submitted to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the start of the next legislative session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, the Director of Health, and the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY: July Make

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