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Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 3:52 AM
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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1570 on Feb 3, 2016 10:15AM*

HB1570

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

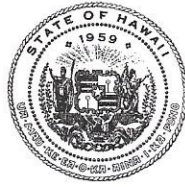
Testimony for OMH on Feb 3, 2016 10:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaelan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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STATE OF HAWAII
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LATE

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to H.B. 1570
RELATING TO RADIATION LEVELS IN SEAFOOD**

REPRESENTATIVE KANIELA ING, CHAIR, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: 2/3/16

Room Number: 325

Time: 10:15 am

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Implementation of this measure will require additional funding for
2 sampling and laboratory analysis at a cost of approximately \$500.00 per sample. If all consumer
3 seafood and seaweed products offered in the State (approximately 50, conservatively) were
4 tested on a monthly basis, the overall cost for the duration of the project would be approximately
5 \$1,500,000 (50 samples/month x \$500/sample x 12 months x 5 years).

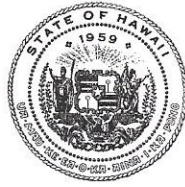
6 **Department Testimony:** The Department appreciates the intent of this bill, but it respectfully
7 opposes the measure. This bill is unnecessary because the Department has already established
8 enhanced radiation surveillance around the islands in response to the Fukushima nuclear event.
9 This includes continuous air sampling through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's
10 (EPA) Radnet system located in Honolulu; monthly (or as rain capture permits) precipitation
11 sampling; quarterly drinking water sampling; quarterly shoreline surveillance on the Islands of
12 Hawaii, Kauai, Maui and Oahu; and surveying of Japan Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD), as
13 needed. The results and updates are periodically posted to our website.

14 With regard to seafood safety, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has already
15 collected and tested fish samples from Alaskan waters (in 2014) and Hawaiian waters (in 2015).
16 The results of the tests showed no gamma-ray emitting radionuclides detected except for
17 naturally occurring Potassium-40. In addition, the states of Washington and California have
18 been collecting and testing seafood from their waters with results indicating no significant health
19 impact.

1 The FDA has no evidence that radionuclides from the Fukushima incident are present in
2 the U.S. food supply at levels that would pose a public health concern. This is true for both FDA-
3 regulated food products imported from Japan and U.S. domestic food products, including
4 seafood caught off the coast of the United States. Consequently, FDA is not advising consumers
5 to alter their consumption of specific foods imported from Japan or domestically produced foods,
6 including seafood. The FDA and the Department continue to closely monitor the situation at and
7 around the Fukushima Dai-ichi facility, as it has since the start of the incident and will
8 coordinate with other Federal and state agencies as necessary, standing ready to take action if
9 needed, to ensure the safety of food in the marketplace.

10 Given the extent of monitoring, sampling and surveillance being performed by various
11 entities, the Department believes this measure is unnecessary and should be deferred.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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