

**TULSI GABBARD**  
2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII'

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**  
SUBCOMMITTEES  
OVERSIGHT & INVESTIGATIONS  
SEAPOWERS & PROJECTION FORCES

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA & THE PACIFIC



300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 5-104  
HONOLULU, HI 96850  
(808) 541-1986

1609 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4906

[www.gabbard.house.gov](http://www.gabbard.house.gov)

February 5, 2016

House of Representatives  
Committee on Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

To Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Health:

I'm writing to support HB 2061 and HB 2234 that target resources to the fight against the outbreak of dengue on Hawaii Island. Coordinated action by all sectors of government, working with the private sector and community, will result in halting the growing numbers of locally acquired cases of dengue fever.

On October 21, 2015 the dengue exposure rate on Hawaii Island was 1 in 185,079. As of January 27, 2016, 1 out of every 853 of our constituents and 3 out of every 50,000 visitors has contracted dengue fever. This constitutes an approximate infection of 66 residents and 6 visitors every month.

The same mosquito that carries dengue fever is also a carrier of the Zika virus which is "spreading explosively" according to UN health officials who have declared an international health emergency. More than a third of the world's population lives in areas at risk for infection from the dengue virus, which is a leading cause of illness and death in the tropics and subtropics. As many as 400 million people are infected annually. The increasing rate of dengue exposure necessitates swift decisive action at every level to halt the spread of dengue and prevent the entry of Zika.

I urge quick passage of HB 2061 and HB 2234 that call for necessary action to protect the people of Hawaii Island and our state from this tragic outbreak, and I look forward to our continuing partnership to protect the people of Hawaii.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tulsi Gabbard".

TULSI GABBARD  
Member of Congress (HI-02)

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2061  
A BILL MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH

PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

BY  
VERN MIYAGI  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
February 5, 2016

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the House Committee on Health.

I am Vern Miyagi, Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 2240.

Based on the current Dengue outbreak situation on the Big Island and the advent of other mosquito vector borne illnesses that could threaten Hawaii, it is clear that the Vector Control Branch in the Department of Health needs to be re-established immediately.

What kept us safe in the past was an active and dedicated Vector Control Branch in the Hawaii Department of Health. The severe staff reductions in 2009 are the primary cause of the current outbreaks of mosquito vector diseases in the state. Please support this re-establishment action.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of House Bill 2061.

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2061  
A BILL MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH

PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

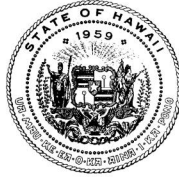
BY  
MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
February 5, 2016

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the House Committee on Health.

I am Major General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT** of House Bill 2061.

The lack of a Vector Control Branch in the Department of Health seriously impedes the current Dengue control efforts on Hawaii Island. The State needs to recover from the drastic 2009 personnel reductions that seriously impact any vector control response. With the increased threat from Dengue, Zika and other mosquito vector diseases, it is critical the Vector Control Branch in the Department of Health be reestablished immediately.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of House Bill 2061.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2061, Proposed HD 1  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 5, 2016      Room Number: 329  
Time: 8:30am

1    **Fiscal Implications:** Reestablishment of the Department of Health's (DOH) Vector Control  
2    Branch to pre-RIF levels will require 37.0 FTE and approximately \$1.9M.

3    **Department Testimony:** The current dengue outbreak that started in October 2015 has been so  
4    far confined to Hawaii Island largely due to the combined and concerted efforts by DOH and  
5    other state, county and federal agencies. The four Vector Control staff on Hawaii Island have  
6    been responding to this outbreak from the very beginning, on many occasion for seven days a  
7    week, by applying pesticides to reduce the mosquito population and public outreach via  
8    telephone or door-to-door.

9    The remaining 13 Vector Control staff on Oahu, Maui, and Kauai fly into West Hawaii to  
10   provide assistance, in addition to maintaining their work on their respective home island,  
11   including responding to imported cases of dengue. The DOH has also been augmenting the  
12   small vector control staff with staff from other programs statewide; primarily the food safety  
13   inspectors and environmental health specialists.

14   As the outbreak enters into its fourth month, DOH must develop strategies to continue the  
15   current response operations with a vector control staff that are dedicated in maintaining public  
16   health and safety but extremely understaffed and we must also look to the future and start  
17   developing plans to adequately address future outbreaks with appropriate manpower and  
18   equipment.

1 By fully reestablishing the Vector Control Branch to staffing and budget levels from 2009, the  
2 State of Hawaii will be able to more effectively manage outbreaks such as dengue fever, and  
3 other newly emerging public health threats such as zika virus, transmitted by the same *Aedes*  
4 *aegypti* mosquito.

5

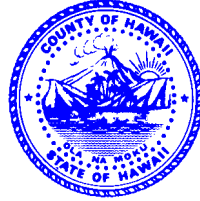
6 **Offered Amendments:** Page 2, Bill Section 2, from line 4:

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of  
8 the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,901,475 or so much thereof as  
9 may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the department of  
10 health to hire [~~four~~] thirty-seven full-time equivalent ([~~4.0~~]  
11 37 FTE) positions for vector control, including a vector control  
12 program manager, communications specialist, and [~~three~~] thirty-  
13 five staff positions, and to take steps to fully reestablish a  
14 vector control sector branch within the department's  
15 environmental health administration.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
17 health for the purposes of this Act.

18

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI  
Council Member  
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396  
FAX: (808) 961-8912  
EMAIL: [donishi@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:donishi@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

TESIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2061, HD 1

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Friday, February 5, 2016, 8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

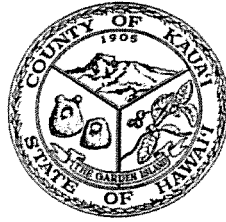
Honorable Chair Belatti,  
Vice Chair Cregan,  
And Members of the Committee on Health

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2061, Proposed HD1, which makes an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2015-2016 to the Department of Health for the dengue fever outbreak. This bill also makes an appropriation for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the Department of Health to hire more vector control employees and to reestablish a vector control branch.

Due to the outbreak of dengue fever it is essential that funds be appropriated to the Department of Health to hire more full-time vector control employees and to reestablish a vector control branch.

Please recommend approval of this bill.

**Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.**  
Mayor



**Elton S. Ushio**  
Civil Defense Manager

**Nadine K. Nakamura**  
Managing Director

**KAUA'I CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY**

3990 Kaana St., Suite 100, Lihu'e, Hawai'i 96766  
TEL (808) 241-1800 FAX (808) 241-1860

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair and Members  
Committee on Health  
State House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. 2061

Dear Chair Belatti and Committee Members:

I am Elton Ushio, Manager of the County of Kaua'i Civil Defense Agency, testifying in SUPPORT of H.B. 2061

The current Dengue outbreak on the Big Island, along with the threats of other mosquito-borne diseases such as the Zika and Chikugunya viruses clearly illustrate the need for the immediate re-establishment of the Department of Health Vector Control Branch.

A fully-staffed, equipped and functioning Vector Control Branch would provide an effective and proven means of preventing and combatting outbreaks of vector-borne diseases in Hawai'i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2061

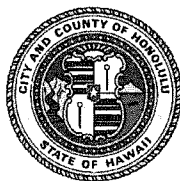
Sincerely,

Elton S. Ushio  
Civil Defense Manager

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 723-8960 • FAX: (808) 524-3439

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU  
DIRECTOR

PETER J.S. HIRAI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Committee on Finance  
The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Committee on Health  
House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke, Chair Belatti and Members:

SUBJECT: H.B. 2061, HD1, Making an Appropriation to the Department of Health to  
Re-establish a Vector Control Branch

I am Melvin Kaku, Director of the Department of Emergency Management  
(DEM), City and County of Honolulu (City).

DEM strongly supports H.B. 2061, HD1, which proposes to make an  
appropriation to the Department of Health to reestablish a Vector Control Branch.

The purpose of a Vector Control Branch is to provide and maintain a proactive  
and dedicated vector control program throughout the State of Hawaii to keep our  
communities and visitors safe and protected from vector borne illnesses.

With the advent of the current Dengue outbreak situation on the Big Island and  
the potential of other mosquito vector borne diseases that could threaten the State of  
Hawaii, it is logical and prudent that the Vector Control Branch in the Department of  
Health be re-established immediately.

I urge your committee to pass H.B. 2061 out of Committee. Thank you for the  
opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvin N. Kaku". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Melvin N. Kaku  
Director



William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Darryl J. Oliveira  
Civil Defense Administrator

Walter K.M. Lau  
Managing Director

**County of Hawaii**  
**CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY**  
920 Ululani Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3958  
(808) 935-0031 • Fax (808) 935-6460

February 4, 2016

Della Au Belatti, Chair  
House Committee on Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Dear Representative Bellati,

I would like to take this opportunity to submit this letter in strong support of House Bill 2061 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH.

As a member of the Unified Command currently coordinating and directing the operational response to the Dengue Fever outbreak on Hawaii Island, I have experienced firsthand the impact of the limited capability and capacity of the Department of Health Vector Control Branch with meeting our core objectives. To overcome this gap and limitation, the County of Hawaii has committed and provided support to augment and supplement both the personnel and equipment resources to meet the operational and mission needs. In addition, the Department of Health reallocated available resources from other Islands and Counties to support the response efforts of the Vector Control Branch. Needless to say, if a vector response is necessary on one or more of the other islands for other outbreaks, these same state resources may be recalled and redirected.

Finally, the reestablishment of the Vector Control Branch would not only improve the response capability with the current outbreak it would also enable the branch to resurrect prevention and vector abatement and control programs as a more proactive approach to reducing the risk for future outbreaks.

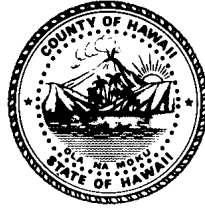
Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in strong support of HB 2061 and I encourage your support and passage of this measure.

Thank you,

  
Darryl J. Oliveira, Administrator



*Maile Medeiros David*  
Council District 6  
Portion N. S. Kona/Ka'ū /Volcano



Phone: (808) 323-4277  
Fax: (808) 329-4786  
Email: [maile.david@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:maile.david@hawaiiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*County of Hawai'i*  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 4, 2016

Honorable Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair and  
Honorable Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Health  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 402  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: HB 2061 – Making Appropriation to Department of Health to Establish  
A vector Control Branch

Honorable Chair Belatti:

I would like to express my strong support of HB 2061 for making an appropriation to the Department of Health to reestablish a Vector Control Branch. Vector control staff are critically important and essential especially in light of the dengue outbreak on Hawai'i island.

Many constituents in my Council District have expressed sentiments that we should have an adequate number of vector control staff to respond to this serious dengue fever situation and any other health issues that may arise in the future.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2061. Mahalo a nui loa.

Very truly yours,

Maile David

Maile David, Councilmember  
Hawai'i County Council  
Council District 6

md/



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII  
*The Voice of Business*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Friday, February 5, 2016 at 8:30 A.M.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol**

**RE: HOUSE BILL 2061 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH TO REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2061, which makes an appropriation to the department of health to hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector control branch.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Department of Health's Vector Control branch is a critical program that involves controlling the spread of animals that have the potential to carry disease, from rodents to insects, including mosquitoes. We support this bill as it adds funding for this critical program at a time when there are several public health issues in our state such as the breakout of dengue fever. Unchecked not only is this a public health issue but an economic one. While some of the data is anecdotal we believe that there has been an impact to tourism and other parts of the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 5, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TESTIMONY ON HB 2061 Proposed HD1

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO  
REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH

Room 329  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB strongly supports HB 2061 Proposed HD1** which makes an emergency appropriation to the Department of Health to assist in the ongoing dengue fever outbreak and for the department to reestablish a vector control branch, and to hire staff.

Due to the recent dengue outbreak, local residents and tourists have learned the hard way how important it is to have an active and effective vector control unit to help combat mosquitoes that carry the disease and spread it to new areas and new victims.

Public health necessitates the return of this DOH branch so that Hawaii has adequate resources to prevent proliferation of disease-carrying animals and to respond quickly to potential outbreaks of disease.

Because they spend so much time outdoors tending their crops and livestock, farmers and ranchers across the state may be especially exposed and vulnerable to various animals that could spread disease. HFB supports restoring the vector control branch and ensuring that it is adequately funded.

Thank you for your support of this important measure.



February 3, 2016

### **Testimony in Support of HB2061**

Members of the Hawaii Legislature:

The Kohala Coast Resort Association (KCRA) is in full support of making an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2015-2016 to the Department of Health for the dengue fever outbreak, and for making an appropriation for fiscal year 2016-2017 to the Department of Health to hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector control branch.

KCRA is a collection of master-planned resorts and hotels situated north of the airport which represents more than 3,500 hotel accommodations and an equal number of resort residential units. This is about 60 percent of the accommodations available on the Island of Hawai'i. This dengue fever outbreak has had an impact on our residents, our employees, and visitors to our island and we encourage the Legislature and the Department of Health to take proactive measures to ensure that the Department of Health is adequately funded.

Mahalo for your support.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Donoho  
Administrative Director

Patrick Fitzgerald, Hualalai Resort  
Kelley Cosgrove, The Fairmont Orchid, Hawai'i  
Debi Bishop, Hilton Waikoloa Village  
Rodney Ito, Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows  
John Tolbert, Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa  
Craig Anderson, Mauna Kea Resort

Takashi Yamakawa, Mauna Lani Resort  
Scott Head, Waikoloa Land Company  
Denise Hill, Hualalai Resort  
Robert Whitfield, Four Seasons Resort Hualalai  
Peter Thoene, Mauna Kea Beach Hotel  
and Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 3:12 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** Hapuuheidi@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Heidi Burgwardt     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I have been a victim of Dengue Fever I contracted while living in the Caribbean many years ago. Break Bone Disease. I have been told by two tropical Dr.'s that if I get it again, I have a 20% chance of dying. The symptoms of this type 1, which I understand to be the one on Hawaii Island, and now Maui, are different, so it must be a different variety. I am seeing fight the bite warnings more, however, people just don't think it's for real. They think they are invincible. Thus, spreading it more. I live in Puna, and there have been reported cases near me. Fight the Bite, and let's eradicate this before it's here to stay. More Education is needed regarding this serious epidemic. I grabbed a notice at the local store, which is helpful as a lot of people in Puna do not have a radio, or TV, internet or read the newspaper. Tourists especially should be notified upon arrival, and perhaps get complimentary insect repellent, or know how to use essential oils.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

I am in support of HB2061. I live on the Big Island. We have watched as more cases of dengue have been added daily, we obviously do not have adequate staff to address this growing problem. The negative impact to our lives is taking its toll. The economy will become increasingly negatively impacted as the numbers rise, think Waipio Valley closure and Ho'okena.

With the added information regarding Zika in the public eye and the first baby born affected by Zika in Hawaii we must address any questions of public safety aggressively or not only our health is in danger so is our economy. Please support HB2061.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:47 AM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** nelsoncraige@netscape.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Craig Nelson        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:41 AM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** jgraham3154@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jason Graham        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 5:05 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** thesnovers@mac.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David&Uschi Snover  | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Aloha, this a very important bill! With global warming there will be an increase of mosquitos, with increasing poverty there will be more and more trash on this island, with travel it is only a question of time when Zika will join Dengue on our islands. Florida has already declared emergency for 4 counties due to Zika and we are still waiting with 224 cases of Dengue. Please do something now. Mahalo

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 8:21 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** jmuir@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| jeff muir           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 5:42 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** joyamarshall0416@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joy Marshall        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:15 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: jeandb@hawaii.rr.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| PAUL BREESE         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I strongly support this bill and any other measures that would help control the dengue carrying mosquito.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 11:03 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: Merway@hawaii.rr.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| marjorie erway      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Let's get this mosquito problem under control before the State loses tourism and gains lots of health problems!!! Please support HB2061

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 12:40 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: mokdatta@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maureen Datta       | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: This is not the place to try to save money. Please pass this and support efforts to deal with Dengue and other vectors on Hawaii Island.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 1:45 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: nalu691@yahoo.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michelle Higashi    | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:20 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: nsainsevain@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Natalie Sainsevain  | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I support this control measure against dengue fever mosquitoes.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Aloha,

My name is Edward Rau and I am resident of Naalehu, Hawaii. Recently I retired as an Environmental Health Director of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps after serving on active duty for 30 years. I have over 40 years of professional experience in environmental health practice and am a Licensed Environmental Health Specialist in Maryland. I am also a volunteer with Department of Health (DOH) Big Island Medical Reserve Corps and have assisted with response activities relating to the ongoing dengue outbreak on Hawaii Island.

Today I would like to offer testimony in support of House Bill 2061 that makes an appropriation to the Department of Health to hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector control branch.

From my observations of the progress of the current dengue outbreak and some direct participation in response efforts in a deployment with the Big Island Medical Reserve Corps it has been readily apparent to me the DOH does not have sufficient equipment, staffing and professional expertise to bring this outbreak under control and maintain an effective and comprehensive vector control program needed to prevent future outbreaks.

It is my understanding that the current program and staffing levels are a remnant of a larger more robust program that was decimated by budget cuts during the last recession. In my long public health career I have seen similar situations and funding cycles in both county health departments in California and federal programs, and their disastrous impacts on vector control efforts. Effective programs are established and funded; vectors and related nuisances are reduced providing a false sense of security and excuses to use the budget ax during periods of financial stress. Effective programs and levels of control are lost, outbreaks then occur and hasty, often ill planned efforts are made to restore programs, and this destructive cycle starts over again. To be effective vector control programs must have steady support and time to build teams, working relationships with other agencies, health care providers and the public. There must also be additional established local reserves of professionals, technicians, supplies and equipment on standby to deal with emergencies and the new, rapidly emerging diseases such as zika, chikungunya and angiostrongyliasis (rat lung worm disease) that are transmitted by vectors – mosquitos and rats. The risk of outbreaks these diseases in Hawaii is greater than ever before because of the ease of travel, currently pandemic levels of these diseases throughout the highly populated tropical areas of the world, and the adverse impacts of climate change and warming. Under these conditions prevention of these diseases in Hawaii by classical control measures may not be feasible. It may now be necessary to eradicate or greatly reduce populations of introduced invasive vector species such as mosquitos, snails etc. that transmit these diseases. These will require far greater resources than were previously assigned to classical controls.

In developing this bill I would urge legislators to more clearly assess and define the gaps in response capability that are present and the specific types of employees that are needed to improve this capability. Then based on this information, prioritize the allocation of funds. Even with this special appropriation I do not believe that there will be sufficient funds to meet all needs.

Please also consider development of an ongoing budget for this activity; one time special appropriations such as this may be needed are but do not provide continuity of operations and divert limited management resources to annual pursuits of funding.

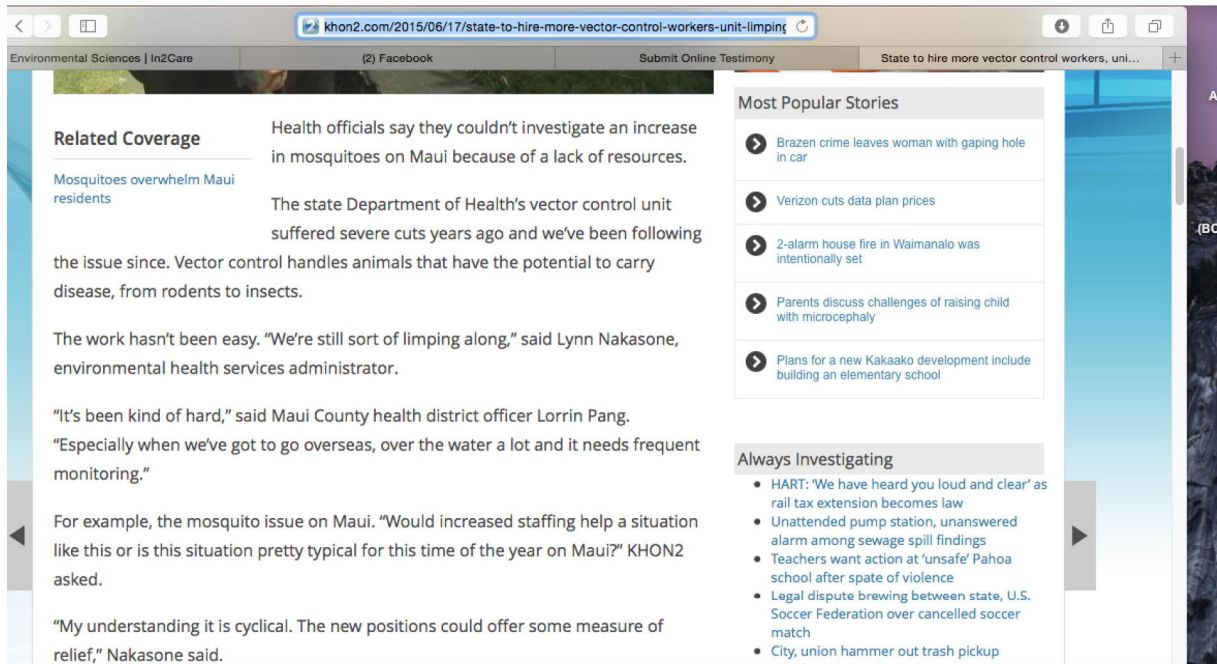
I am submitting this testimony on very short notice. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or would like more comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Edward H. Rau, MS, LEHS  
Captain, U.S. Public Health Service, Retired

I am positive that there is no way that anyone could look at the current spread of Dengue fever around the Island of Hawaii and not recognize that this outbreak is far from be controlled and isolated. It is spreading around this island without adequate resources in place to isolate this outbreak.

In June of 2015, the public of Hawaii was informed that the legislators approved at a time when Environmental Health Service Administrator Nakasone stated the state Department of Health vector control unit was “limping along”. <http://khon2.com/2015/06/17/state-to-hire-more-vector-control-workers-unit-limping-along/>



Once the positions approved last June are hired and trained, our state will still only have 2/5's of the staff they had prior to budget cutbacks were made. As of today, there is still one of two Vector Control positions (VC-II, BC-05) that is still on the state jobs position posted, the VC-I position was opened in mid-December and closed Dec. 31st (over 2 months after the DOH knew they had an outbreak of locally acquired Dengue on the Island of Hawaii).



The Island of Hawaii currently has all of the ULV sprayers for insecticide available to the state of Hawaii. We need more funding and staffing to help isolate this outbreak, while being able to do all of the other “normal” vector control services that our state Department of Health is charged to control. To not fund adequate protection, is to allow our state to be vulnerable.

Mahalo, Carey Yost, Keaau, HI

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:44 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: hawaiiifishingfanatic@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Don Aweau           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 8:50 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: douglasperrine@yahoo.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM\*

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Douglas Perrine     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 8:03 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: joshuapatwood@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Josh Atwood         | Individual          | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments: As an individual I strongly support the restoration of the Vector Control Branch at the DOH. This is a critical public service that was dismantled for economic reasons in 2009 and should be restored as quickly as possible.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HLTtestimony

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 5:11 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: kteranis@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2061 on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM

**HB2061**

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HLT on Feb 5, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kristen Teranishi   | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: As Hawaii is a major hub for travelers from all over the world, we have to be all the more prepared to handle disease outbreaks including those that are transmitted by vectors such as the mosquito. Of course in light of the recent dengue and zika virus cases, the importance of a robust vector control program should no doubt be a priority. I wholeheartedly support this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)