

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

February 5, 2015
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312

HOUSE BILL NO. 849
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chairperson Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 849. This bill would amend Hawaii's Right to Farm Act under Section 165-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to prohibit local governments from enacting any law, ordinance, or resolution that abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state laws, rules, or regulations. The Department of Agriculture (DOA) supports the intent of this measure.

The Department supports all agriculture. Should a farmer or rancher be following existing rules and regulations that govern all aspects of their business, then the Department believes they should be allowed to operate their business. The Department does its best to provide an environment for a successful, 21st century agricultural economy that encompasses all aspects of agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

DATE: Feb. 4, 2015

TO: Clift Tsuji, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: Testimony on HB849: In Opposition

Thank you Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi and members of the House Committee on Agriculture for considering my testimony. I am in strong opposition to HB849 which amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that "counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices".

I regret that I signed this legislation as an Introducer, and strongly encourage the House Committee on Agriculture to defer this bill. Not only would this bill prevent our counties from the ability to make island by island decisions regarding their farming industries, but is an infringement of home rule rights which exist between the State and Counties. Each island community is unique, and we must respect and recognize that as an island state.

Personally, I have a son who lives on Kauai and his concerns regarding agricultural practices on that island have enlightened me to the need for county-based policy and management practices. The State should not be infringing on County responsibilities and should not jump to restrict or remove County oversight. My signing on to this bill was a mistake, and with this testimony I am asking that the committee members will not move this bill on, and defer it permanently.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mwille@co.hawaii.hi.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Wille	Hawaii County Council Dist 9	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly oppose this legislation. It is designed to gut the Counties' home rule over matters affecting agriculture. It will put an ocean between the people and the first layer of government on ag matters where diversity should be promoted rather than uniformity. The Counties are each unique and historically it is the local government that takes the lead on matters affecting property. State legislators are too timid to address the problem of contamination of non-gmo farms by pollen drift from gmo operations cultivating a gmo variety of the same type of crop. Such disrespect for the County governments and the will of the people is shocking. There is no state legislation governing the cultivation of gmo crops and plants. Hence in effect this legislation is clearly designed to put these multinational biotech corporations above the law. State legislators supporting this bill should be ashamed.

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

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mel Rapozo, Chair
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair
Mason K. Chock
Gary L. Hooser
Arryl Kaneshiro
KipuKai Kualii
JoAnn A. Yukimura



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Ricky Watanabe, County Clerk
Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone (808) 241-4188
Fax (808) 241-6349
Email cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawaii 96766

February 4, 2015

TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
HB 849, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE
Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 5, 2015
8:30 A.M.
Conference Room 312

Dear Chair Tsuji and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong opposition of HB 849 relating to agriculture and the County's home rule authority. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as Planning Committee Chair and as a Councilmember of the Kaua'i County Council.

HB 849 seeks to remove the counties home rule authority and ability to enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions that "abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state law, rules, or regulations." However, I believe that if the health, safety, and welfare of our residents are at risk, the counties, as well as the state, are fundamentally responsible to protect the people and the *'aina* from being exposed to such hazards. Approving this measure will ignore the local democratic process and significantly lessen the public's environmental and health protections.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the Committee to defer this measure indefinitely. Again, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

MASON K. CHOCK
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AB:mn

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mel Rapozo, Chair
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair
Mason K. Chock
Gary L. Hooser
Arryl Kaneshiro
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Council Services Division
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Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

February 4, 2015

TESTIMONY OF GARY L. HOOSER
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
HB 849, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 5, 2015
8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 312

Dear Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Hooser I presently serve on the Kauai County Council and I am here today testifying as an individual Councilmember in strong opposition to HB 849, Relating to Agriculture.

The laws and protections afforded by the State and Federal government should represent a floor not a ceiling of protections.

Neither the State nor the Federal government is truly aware of what happens "on the ground" within each County and to strip away the Counties authority to protect its own citizens is unconscionable.

If County governments supported by their citizens desire greater protections from whatever activity is being conducted, they should have the right to put into place those protections. Just as the State of Hawaii can be more protective than the floor set in to place by Federal regulations, County governments and the people they represent also should be afforded that same right.

HB849 states - (b) No law, ordinance, or resolution of any unit of local government shall be enacted that abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state law, rules, or regulations."

Translation: If HB849 is passed into law – local communities and local government will not have the authority to protect the health of their citizens or natural environment against the actions or inactions of any agricultural operation. Our authority will be limited to calling the appropriate State or Federal agency regardless if anyone answers that phone, responds affirmatively or not. And if there is no State of Federal law regulating the dangerous activity the County would be virtually powerless to protect its citizenry.

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee
Re: HB 849, Relating to Agriculture
February 4, 2015
Page 2

If the State and this Legislature is honest about its ability and track record with regards to regulating agriculture and specifically pesticide use, it will admit that the efforts are woefully inadequate.

It is on the public record that it takes the State Department of Agriculture years to investigate and close cases of pesticide drift and contamination and there is now a multi-year back-log in investigating complaints and unresolved inspections. It is also public record that this area of enforcement is woefully underfunded and many positions are left vacant for years.

These companies are fond to say that they are “highly regulated” and this is just flat out not true. Federal agencies are rarely actually ever “on the ground” conducting inspections and the same goes with State agencies. Large companies who apply toxic Restricted Use Pesticides many of which are banned in other countries apply their chemicals over 260 days per year are inspected perhaps 2 to 8 times per year.

I have attached a document “9 Most Frequent Misstatements Made By Hawaii Chemical Companies” and this URL is linked to the actual source documents <http://tinyurl.com/9Misstatements-02-04-15>.

HB849 implies that the complainers and the problem is because of newcomers and so-called transplants. - “The legislature finds that during the last several decades, population growth and migration to Hawaii have resulted in urban encroachment into rural areas traditionally reserved for agricultural activity. This intrusion brings inevitable conflict when new neighbors face dust, pesticide use, noise, and other activity typical of farming operations.”

The truth on Kauai is that over 100 local west-side residents of Waimea Town are suing Dupont Pioneer for dust and pesticide drift into their neighborhoods. These residents are for the most part multi-generational Kauai residents, not new so-called transplants.

The State and Federal Governments have done nothing to help these residents while Kauai County has stepped up to try, and now through this legislation the legislature would take that ability away.

HB 849 also quotes: “Article XI, section 3, of the Hawai‘i State Constitution mandates that "The State shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."

But HB 849 leaves out Article XI, section 1 of that same State Constitution which also includes a mandate that says “For the benefit of present and future generations, the State **and its political subdivisions** shall conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all natural resources, including land, water, air... (emphasis added)

Again, the laws and protections afforded by the State and Federal government should represent a floor not a ceiling of protections.

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee
Re: HB 849, Relating to Agriculture
February 4, 2015
Page 2

In conclusion I ask that this Committee HOLD HB 849 and please do not support stripping away the authority of County governments to protect their citizens. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Hooser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" and last name "Hooser" clearly distinguishable.

GARY L. HOOSER
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

9 MOST FREQUENT MISSTATEMENTS MADE BY CHEMICAL COMPANIES IN HAWAI‘I

1) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “All of these chemicals and pesticides have been tested and found to be safe when used according to the label.”

THE TRUTH:

- No one has ever tested the combined impacts of these chemicals over time in the communities in which they are being used.
- Many of the chemicals (including [Atrazine](#); Paraquat, [also known as Gramoxone](#); and Chlorpyrifos, [also known as Lorsban](#)) that are regularly used near Hawai‘i homes, schools, and hospitals are banned in other countries.
- Atrazine, manufactured by Syngenta, has been [banned](#) in the European Union since October 2003. See also [Paraquat bans](#) and [Chlorpyrifos bans](#).
- [The American Academy of Pediatrics’ “Pesticide Exposure in Children” \(2012\)](#) specifically recommends disclosure and buffer zones, and offers strong cautions about pesticides and children.
- [The American Cancer Society’s “Increased Cancer Burden Among Pesticide Applicators and Others Due to Pesticide Exposure” \(2013\)](#) states definitively that people who live and work around agricultural areas that have high pesticide use suffer a greater incidence of certain cancers and other medical problems.
- [The University of California at Davis recently released a report, “Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Prenatal Residential Proximity to Agricultural Pesticides: The CHARGE Study” \(2014\)](#), linking the long term use of Glyphosate to the increased incidence of autism.
- Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) labels forbid their use in conditions which allow the pesticides to drift onto neighboring properties. Nevertheless, there are numerous incidents of drift occurring in Hawai‘i, with no legal consequences for the companies. The attached links of two modest studies on Kaua‘i indicate that while the quantities are small, Restricted Use Pesticides are drifting into neighborhood schools and into adjacent streams:
 - [“Air sampling and analysis for pesticide residues and odorous chemicals in and around Waimea, Kaua‘i” \(March 15, 2013\)](#)
 - [“2013-14 State Wide Pesticide Sampling Pilot Project Water Quality Findings” \(May 2014\)](#)

2) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “We use less pesticides, not more.”

THE TRUTH:

Despite the fact that no other farmer in Hawai‘i uses anything close to what these chemical companies use, the chemical companies attempt to compare apples to oranges:

- The chemical companies compare themselves to conventional corn growers (who harvest one (1) crop growing cycle per year). In Hawai‘i, the chemical companies are engaging in industrial and experimental agriculture, and planting three (3) or more crop growing cycles per year. See [the non-confidential records obtained in the lawsuit by Waimea, Kaua‘i residents against Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.](#)

9 MOST FREQUENT MISSTATEMENTS MADE BY CHEMICAL COMPANIES IN HAWAII

- The chemical companies are experimenting with “Roundup Ready” and other chemical-resistant crops, encouraging greater pesticide use. [“Roundup resistance has led to greater use of herbicides, with troubling implications for biodiversity, sustainability, and human health.”](#)
- The *Cascadia Times* [reported](#): “Our investigation found that annualized pounds-per-acre usage of the seven highly toxic pesticides on Kaua‘i was greater, on average, than in all but four states: Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina and Indiana.”
- According to Kyle Smith, an attorney representing Waimea Residents in their lawsuit against DuPont Pioneer, during the August 5, 2013 Kaua‘i Council Meeting regarding Bill No. 2491 (Ordinance No. 960): “Sixty-five percent (65%) of the days of the year on average, so about two hundred forty (240) days, they are applying pesticides. You can look at the combinations that are applied. You could look at it by on the application days, the average is between eight (8) and maybe sixteen (16) applications per day of pesticides on these research fields. Most importantly though and I think what is most relevant for this discussion is the total usage. Recently, the industry statistics I saw put out at the public comment was that Kaua‘i was using about one (1) pound per acre, per season and that the mainland uses about two (2) pounds per acre and I have these charts to show you. Again, I believe it is a seed company graph. The reality is if you double that because we have multiple seasons, we have three (3) seasons. Typically, two (2) seasons are planted, you are looking at closer to two (2) pounds per acre, that puts us in the upper-level of the mainland usage. . . . 2010, 2009 you are looking at close to twelve (12) pounds per acre and the average usage, and this is Restricted-Use Pesticides, over that same time period would be eight (8) pounds per acre.”

3) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “The information regarding the pesticides we use is already public information.”

THE TRUTH:

- The only State records kept are of Restricted Use Pesticides SOLD in the State of Hawai‘i—NOT the Pesticides USED. Additionally, these records are for RUPs only, not all pesticides.
- The State does not keep records of, and the companies have refused to release any information regarding, the amount of “General Use Pesticides” (such as Glyphosate) that they are using.
- The HDOA [will no longer provide company-specific data](#) but only aggregated data, which makes it impossible to determine what chemicals are being used by whom at what geographical location.
- The HDOA [has charged hundreds of dollars](#) to provide the data.
- [Hawai‘i Revised Statutes 149A-31.2 \(Pesticide use; posting online\) \(2013\)](#), mandating that HDOA “shall publish on its website the public information contained in all restricted use pesticide records, reports, or forms submitted to the department” still has yet to be implemented by HDOA.

9 MOST FREQUENT MISSTATEMENTS MADE BY CHEMICAL COMPANIES IN HAWAII

4) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “We are highly regulated.”

THE TRUTH:

Not really.

- Federal agencies do not always have a Hawai‘i presence, rarely conduct on-site physical inspections, and have [delegated responsibilities to the States and localities](#). See also [Wisconsin Public Intervenor v. Mortier, 501 U. S. 597 \(1991\)](#).
- Even though the chemical companies are by far the largest agricultural users of RUPs in the State and operate on over 20,000 acres often adjacent to homes, schools, and sensitive environmental areas, [the HDOA infrequently inspects their operations](#).
 - [Approximately 43% of the HDOA inspection log incidents are redacted](#) from public view indicating inspection cases that remain “open” and/or otherwise contain information not available to the public.
 - It takes YEARS to investigate violations and complaints of pesticide drift. See the following:
 - [Honolulu Civil Beat, “Does Hawai‘i’s Failure to Enforce Pesticide Use Justify Action by Kaua‘i?” \(October 8, 2013\)](#)
 - [Video of HDOA responses](#) to the Kaua‘i County Council during proceedings for Bill No. 2491 (Ordinance No. 960)
 - Licensed physicians on Kaua‘i who practice in areas impacted by the chemical companies’ operations have [expressed](#) that they believe there is 10 times the national rate of certain rare congenital heart defects in newborns.
 - The State birth defects registry [until very recently has not been updated since 2005](#).

5) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “We only use what every other farmer uses.”

THE TRUTH:

Based on [raw Kaua‘i data provided by HDOA](#) showing three (3) years of RUPs purchased for use in Kaua‘i County – *NO OTHER REAL HAWAII FARMER USES ANYTHING EVEN CLOSE TO WHAT IS USED BY THE CHEMICAL COMPANIES*. Just in 2012, and just on Kaua‘i, over 5,477 pounds and 4,324 gallons were purchased by the chemical companies. The chemical companies have used at least [22 different types of RUPs](#), while regular food farmers use one (1) to possibly three (3) different types and use only a few gallons every few years. Summary data is [here](#).

6) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “We do not experiment with pesticides.”

THE TRUTH:

- *Bacillus thuringiensis* corn (“Bt Corn”) is considered a pesticide by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and experiments with Bt Corn require an “Experimental Use Permit” (EUP) issued by the federal government. See for example [here](#), and [here](#) (documents were provided by HDOA with all redactions as shown).

9 MOST FREQUENT MISSTATEMENTS MADE BY CHEMICAL COMPANIES IN HAWAII

- The chemical companies have other federal Experimental Use Permits; however, the total number of experiments conducted with pesticides is not known and public records contain redactions. See for example [here](#), and [here](#) (documents were provided by HDOA with all redactions as shown).

7) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “The State and County also use large quantities of pesticides.”

THE TRUTH:

- The State and County primarily use general use pesticides such as Roundup for roadside spraying and [park maintenance](#). These products are considered non-RUPs by the [EPA](#) and [HDOA](#).
- The State uses very small amounts of RUPs in targeted efforts to fight invasive species.

8) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “The County of Kaua‘i uses more RUPs than anyone.”

THE TRUTH:

- [The only RUP the County uses is chlorine gas](#) to eliminate bacteria in water. Chlorine gas is by definition a RUP but it is not applied in the open air near homes, schools, hospitals, or other sensitive areas. Its application is very controlled and the information pertaining to its use is public.

9) CHEMICAL COMPANIES: “What about golf courses? They use lots of pesticides, too.”

THE TRUTH:

- Reporting of golf course RUP sales on Kaua‘i in 2012 shows only approximately 50 pounds and 20 gallons of RUPs are used annually by all of the golf courses on Kaua‘i combined—compared to over 5,477 pounds and 4,324 gallons used by the 4 chemical companies each year. The raw data is [here](#) and the summary data is [here](#).

- Information provided by Kaua‘i County Councilmember Gary Hooser -



Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii

TESTIMONY FROM BENNETTE MISALUCHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In Support of HB 849
Amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
February 5, 2015, 8:30 AM in House conference room 312

Aloha Chair Tsuji and members of the Committee,

My name is Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association and we are in support of the intent of HB 849.

The Hawaii right to farm was established to protect the farmer from urban encroachment and help them to defend against unwarranted complaints due to their normal farming operations that include dust, smell, noise, etc...

This bill is to clarify that the state and federal has the complete jurisdiction and oversight of Hawaii's agriculture statewide. The Hawaii Constitution Article XI section 3 states that the state shall promote agriculture... and thus sets the framework that the state has the authority to oversee agriculture. The establishment of the state DOA allows for the implementation of the constitution and has provided the necessary statutes and resources to promote and regulate agriculture with a partnership with the federal government.

We believe that this amendment will further clarify that the state and federal government has clear jurisdiction over agriculture. The farming community cannot be successful with a patchwork of laws and differing regulatory mandates. We need aligned laws that farmers and ranchers can work within and one that is consistent with federal laws. The counties do not have the resources, expertise, and funding necessary to help and promote agriculture. Duplicating the oversight of this function will also be burdensome; state and county resources are better directed towards other priority needs.

We humbly ask for the Committee's support of HB 849.

Mahalo for your kind consideration.

HCIA 2014-2016 Board of Directors

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February 5, 2015

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 849
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,932 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB strongly supports HB 849 which amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions that limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

The purpose of the Hawaii Right to Farm Act is to protect bona fide farming operations from urban encroachment. As our population continues to grow, existing farmers and ranchers are faced with an increased amount of pressure from homeowners living in an active farming community.

State and Federal government agencies typically have the resources, knowledge and expertise to oversee all aspects of Hawaii's agricultural industries. Counties have no demonstrated capacity to regulate in these areas. Moreover, the idea that counties could create redundant and unnecessary regulatory regimes speaks volumes to inefficiencies and not a desire to promote and support farmers, ranchers and local crop production; rather a desire shut down such operations - while simultaneously expounding on the benefits of food security and sustainability.

Agriculture is a long-term enterprise in which crops are planned years in advance. Farmers and ranchers cannot be expected to yield to the whim of activists and political winds manifested in a patchwork of federal, state and county regulations and restrictions.

Hawaii's farmers and ranchers need a stable, level playing field or they will be unable to complete in the marketplace.

Thank you for your support of HB 849.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB 849
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

**PAUL T. OSHIRO
MANAGER – GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
ALEXANDER & BALDWIN, INC.**

FEBRUARY 5, 2015

Chair Tsuji and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

I am Paul Oshiro, testifying on behalf of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. (A&B) and its agricultural company Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company on HB 849, A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. We support this bill.

Hawaii's Right To Farm Law assists and protects farmers by prohibiting the declaration of a farming operation as a nuisance for any reason if the operation is conducted in a manner consistent with generally accepted agricultural and management practices. This law documents the importance of farming to the State of Hawaii and advises surrounding residents and businesses that generally accepted agricultural and management practices are reasonable activities to expect in farming areas.

This bill prohibits the Counties from enacting laws, ordinances, or resolutions that abridge the rights of farmers to employ agricultural practices that are not prohibited by Federal or State laws, rules, or regulations. In light of provisions in the Hawaii State Constitution which mandate that the State of Hawaii conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency, and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands, we support this proposed amendment. Uniform and consistent oversight, regulation, and support of farmers and agricultural

operations will greatly assist in sustaining the viability of this important industry throughout the State of Hawaii.

Based on the foregoing, we respectfully request your favorable consideration on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peter.sullenberger@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Sullenberger	Three Roads Farm	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Kakou, The HFUU, its 8 chapters statewide and over 700 members strongly oppose this measure. It directly contradicts the concept of Home Rule, which on the neighbor islands is a must. For those who value Home Rule, this bill is a terrible precedent for any future conflicts between State and County jurisdictional legal arguments. Counties should always be allowed to look after their best interests, and be more restrictive than state governments, and this is one of the principles that our democratic republic is founded on. As far as farming freedoms are concerned, as we all know, there is a balance between freedom and security. Once the freedom of one entity takes freedom from another entity, governments are supposed to protect the entity losing freedoms. This bill is limiting the freedom of Counties to self determine what is in their own interest, and we are shocked at how many people signed on to this bill, this indicates a serious industry lobbying effort took place. Very few farmers are affected by legislation at the county level lately. Most affected are large agribusiness corporations who export their profits and products. Thank you in advance for understanding our point of view, Simon Russell Hawaii Farmers Union United Vice President and Legislative Committee Chairman

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mark@marksheehan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Sheehan	Haiku Aina Permaculture InitiativeP	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill should be titled "Right to Exploit Hawaii" or "Right to Destroy Democracy". The sponsors of this bill are pawns in a game that threatens everything we cherish and love about living in Hawaii. This has NOTHING TO DO WITH FARMING because the CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES seeking protection through this bill DO NOT PRODUCE FOOD. Say NO now, so NO to this FORVER so this NEVER EVER will be brought to Hawaii Legislature EVER again.

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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauimartha@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill. We must prevent big businesses such as Monsanto and Dow from being allowed to take over and pollute our Hawaiian agricultural lands. Mahalo!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pamelaburrell@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pamela burrell	apollo kauai, zero waste kauai	Oppose	No

Comments: NOT SO FAST... Local people on 3 different islands have expressed their wishes. Home rule counts. It has to count. We live on our island, we love our island and the "state" has no right to tell us our love does not count. I oppose this bill on so many levels..with the underlying truth that those who support this bill are being paid off AND/OR COURTIED by the seed companies.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 3:17 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nimo1767@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Petricci	Puna Pono Alliance	Oppose	No

Comments: AGR, CR 312, 2/05/15, 8:30 am Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair and committee members RE: HB849 - RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Position: Very Strong Opposition Robert Petricci Representing: Puna Pono Alliance PPA believes HB849 is very dangerous and a slippery slope that would weaken the communities right to a safe and healthy environment, to benefit a special interest minority and as such flies in the face of how good government is suppose to function. HB848 deprives us of our community's right to effectively participate in decision making that effects our homes, way of life, and families. Have we learned nothing from the poisoning and environmental degradation of lands and aquifers on Oahu? The toxic legacy resulting from the poor stewardship of our lands and water by corporate interest of big ag pineapple and sugar is still with us today and will be for a very long time. We must protect our lands and aquifers from further degradation. HB 849 does the opposite and invites further toxic and environmental problems. The heptachlor poisoning of the milk supply on Oahu, was a wake up call. History clearly has warned us about the hidden dangers big ag chemicals and practices present, and tells us we must do better. Any industry that needs this type of legislation to succeed raises a huge red flag. HB849 effectively would delegate the outer islands to second class citizenship in the state of Hawaii and we ask you to kill the bill. Gutting county home rule as proposed would leave our communities vulnerable to serious harm and abuse for the benefit of corporate bottom lines. PPA believes disenfranchising the majority of the state as HB849 proposes exemplifies why we need home rule in the first place. HB849 paves the way for off island special interest to get around the best interest of the affected communities. Thank you for the chance to testify against HB849. Robert Petricci Representing Puna Pono Alliance

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:42 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Choon James	CountryTalkStory.com	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE HB849 Aloha Honorable Representatives, I'm very concerned this absolute and tyrannical bill, that deprives citizens of its HOME RULE rights to participate in democracy, has been crafted and heard. We cannot have special legislation that creates a special HOME RULE EXEMPTION for some special "farmers and ranchers" only. BH849 is to shut down citizens' ability to seek redress through legislative and court action against massive toxic pesticide use and so forth) Who can fairly and constitutionally support a legislation that DENY HOME RULE to any county in Hawaii and thus disenfranchising of citizens? If some "farmers and ranchers" ranches engaged in agricultural practices that citizens find harmful to health and environment, surely the affected citizens can seek change and improvement for the benefit of all. Mahalo! Choon James 808 293 9111 CountryTalkStory.com HB849 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Report Title: Right to Farm; Counties Description: Amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

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February 4, 2015

RE: LETTER IN OPPOSITION TO HB 849

Dear Chair Tsuji & Members of the Committee,

My name is Davi Lang, and I am the Legislative Coordinator for the Animal Legal Defense Fund, a national organization of attorneys working to protect the lives and advance the interests of animals through the legal system. My family also owns property in Hawaii, where I spend a significant portion of every year.

ALDF enjoys a nationwide membership of over 100,000 contributing supporters, many of whom reside in the State of Hawaii. It is on their behalf that I respectfully write to request your vote against HB 849—a misguided bill that would eliminate the ability of local governments to regulate agricultural activities within their borders.

HB 849 undemocratically seeks to remove the right of local officials to determine what safeguards would best protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of their residents, animals, and the environment. As we frequently have seen, commonsense advances in community standards and protections often come from the ground up, not the top down. And who is in a better position to assess the needs and concerns of Hawaii communities—local elected decision makers, or a federal agency in Washington DC? Especially one such as the USDA, which views its primary role as being to advance the economic interests of agribusiness.

Hawaii's voters and counties deserve the right to retain the ability to make decisions about agricultural activities that affect their individual communities. On behalf of my organization and its many members, I therefore ask you to seriously consider the ramifications of such a bill, and accordingly issue an unfavorable report for HB 849.

Sincerely,

Davi Lang
Legislative Coordinator
Animal Legal Defense Fund

170 East Cotati Avenue
Cotati, California 94931

T 707.795.2533
F 707.795.7280

info@aldf.org
aldf.org

Winning the case against cruelty

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: JeffreyUDV@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Bronfman	Haiku Aina Permaculture Initiative	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill should be titled "Right to Exploit Hawaii" or "Right to Destroy Democracy". The sponsors of this bill are pawns in a game that threatens everything we cherish and love about living in Hawaii. This has NOTHING TO DO WITH FARMING because the CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES seeking protection through this bill DO NOT PRODUCE FOOD. Say NO now, so NO to this FORVER so this NEVER EVER will be brought to Hawaii Legislature EVER again.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 8:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gottlieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM
Attachments: HB 849 Right to Farm 2015 House AGR.pdf

HB849

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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My name is Shane Albritton, I am a lifelong resident of Maui County and I vehemently urge you all to oppose HB 849.

To create a law that prohibits Hawai'i counties from enacting legislation of their choosing, whether it relates to agriculture or anything else, flies in the face of the democratic process.

Let's be perfectly clear about what agricultural "rights" this bill would protect:

- It would protect the "right" of huge, non-local agro-chemical companies to CONTINUE to spray undisclosed chemical pesticides next to schools and hospitals.
- It would protect the "right" of a certain industrial agricultural company on Maui to continue to fill the skies of Maui with smoke nearly every day, despite overwhelming evidence that respiratory issues are the number one health concern on Maui.
- It would protect the "right" of any agricultural business to conduct any sort of practice THEY deem appropriate with carte blanche, without any approval or input from the communities in which they operate.

The "farmers" this bill is designed to "protect" are in actuality huge corporations that do not even grow foodstuffs for human consumption. They are harvesting value from the land of Hawaii for the benefit of their corporate investors, leaving us to deal with the health issues associated with their irresponsible and unethical practices.

I implore you to stand up for the rights of the PEOPLE of Hawai'i's counties, and their RIGHT to enact legislation regarding the safety of any practice in their own community. Oppose this bill.

Aloha,
Shane Albritton
1883 Mill St

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: elif.beall@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elif Beall	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: February 3, 2015 To the COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair and Members Aloha, I am a resident of Kaua'i and would like to express my opposition to HB849. This is a pre-emption bill clearly directed at the kind of public health regulations counties in Hawai'i have been working to pass in recent years. Last year, this type of legislation was known as the "Hawai'i Monsanto Protection Act" and was defeated. Please allow HB849 to be defeated as well. Mahalo for considering this testimony. Sincerely, /s/ Elif Beall (individual) Kilauea, HI

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:44 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauimiranda@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miranda Camp	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I absolutely OPPOSE this measure and I'm appalled at my representatives who are sponsoring it. The state should not force any kind of agriculture on us as counties. People should get to make decisions as to what kind of agriculture can be grown near themselves and their families. This is ludicrous!!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:51 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Karen@RedwoodGames.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Chun	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Right to Farm? I think not. Right to impose techniques that damage our health, more like. These get-out-of-jail-free cards are all ready peppered through our laws - like the one saying that HC&S can burn 250 days per year despite the 1200 complaints of health effects logged in 2014 and that the county can't do anything about it. This is Big Ag's and Big Chem's bill. Please stand on the side of the people and don't pre-empt county ordinances.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: akamaimom@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not support HB849. It is critical to allow each island to make their own choices in the specifics of agriculture technology. This past two years have seen a flood of outrage over experimental Restricted Use Pesticides as small communities suffer intensively from poison-laden dust on every effected island. Remove this clause 16 (b) "No law, ordinance, or resolution of any unit of local government shall be enacted that abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state law, rules, or regulations." Both Hawaii State's Department of Agriculture and Department of Health showed pesticide presence in 100% of their statewide stream sampling toxicity in March 2014. At the Kauai County Council presentation on their study, they acknowledged THIS WAS THE FIRST "SNAPSHOT TEST" EVER TO CHECK FOR TOXICITY IN THE STREAMS. This is very significant. The industry consistently claims there is no proof of contamination of the waters from their activities. That is because no one is checking. This is typical of their defense. Arguments like THE LABEL IS THE LAW is used repeatedly. The label is designed for continental farms with one crop per year in what are large alluvial plains that spray a few times in a crop cycle. These pesticides are being used in Hawaii on almost a daily basis in several crop cycles per year on our fragile soil in research plots which far exceeds the use on the label. The argument that there is only anecdotal evidence for health impacts that are claimed is because IT IS BOTH UNETHICAL AND NOT POSSIBLE TO DO LONG RANGE STUDIES OF HUMAN IMPACTS FROM THESE CHEMICALS IN ISOLATION. As well, there is plenty of evidence that the Environmental Protection Agency, as regulators of the industry, have a revolving door with the industry and intensive pressure to weaken their standards on the label. Hawaii legislation is Oahu-centric. The population concentration is not adjacent to these fields on Oahu. The neighbor islands need to be able to have control over the contamination of their environments. The PRE- EMPTION OF HOME RULE from the counties in this bill is allowing Oahu to bully the other islands with insensitivity to the impacts of a global industry focused on controlling the food supply rather than on the health of the people or the environment. The regulation capacity of the state has shown to have been grossly inadequate to follow up on the complaints. There has been two new DOA inspection positions opened only as a result of the profound distress expressed by the protests. Clearly, there has not existed the political will to control this industry as is demonstrated with the amendments to this bill as well as two decades of very minimal oversight of the industry. The state should be adapting this bil I to support the counties rather than to silence them. It is painfully clear, the neighbor islands and the farm adjacent areas of Oahu are deeply concerned with the health impacts of the industry. A great deal of money was leveraged by this industry to manipulate the issue into one of racial discord and dis- information in

order to defeat candidates and referendums that don't agree with their practices. This is not a racial issue. At least on Kaua'i, the support for county control of our buffer zones and disclosure was equally mixed from generational residents as well as those who have moved here, and from all races. The industry has the capacity to develop seed products that are focused on nutritional value as opposed to being specifically designed to sell chemicals. There is world resistance to the impacts of their technologies. Enable Hawaii's citizens, not the corporations, to choose the best practices for agriculture. Strengthen citizen empowerment by supporting the counties' ability to set guidance for agriculture.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:41 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kuau77@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
D Brothers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:44 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Dinner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: harvest@kauai-vacations-realty.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harvest Edmonds	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I totally oppose this Bill to limit the individual Counties to enact laws that limit the rights of farmers and ranchers. The key point is - what is the definition of a farmer ! In my opinion a farmer grows food for people to eat, food that is safe to eat. Agro-chemical companies on our islands do not produce food for people to eat. Let each county decide this issue - not State lawmakers most of whom do not live on the outer Islands. Mahalo, Harvest Edmonds

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bradedward@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM
Attachments: I completely oppose HB849.docx

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad D Edwards	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I completely oppose HB849. Please do not support his bill and vote against it. We need to have local control over our farming.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauimagic5711@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Evans	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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John Fitzpatrick
Fitz For Maui County Council
email: fitzformai@gmail.com
phone: 808-268-1073
P.O. Box 532481
Kihei, Hi 96753

In Strong Opposition of HB 849: A Bill Reducing the Ability to Allow Counties to Regulate Agricultural Practices.

Aloha Kakou,

I am in oppositon of HB 849. It reduces the ability of counties to make sure agricultural practices in their back yard is safe and that our citizens and environment aren't in harm. Our current state regulations are not as stringent as the ones passed on Kaua'i, the island of Hawai'i, and most recently on the island of Maui as a citizens initiative.

The state continually fails to rise to the challenge of protecting rural communities from pesticides and GMO's, therefore the counties should be able to protect their people when the state level government is unable to sufficiently do so.

If you are unwilling to protect the citizens across the state then make sure each county can! I support home rule in this instance and ask that you oppose HB 849.

Another alternative if you are scared small local farmers will be affected is to make a separate definition of agriculture that separates large chemical companies such as Monsanto, Dow, Syngenta, and Mycrogen from our local small farmers. Making a separate definition would be much better at protecting small local farmers that don't use as many restricted use pesticides.

Mahalo & E Malama Pono,
Fitz

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:15 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rfreitasjr@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Freitas Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:33 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: noahhardwick1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noah Hardwick	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HR849. Counties do, and should continue to have the right to regulate agriculture in the interest of public safety, and the environment.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rrh38114@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roger Harris	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This smacks of bias against home rule -a basic tenet of local government. Do not pass this bill, this is not the wish of many Big Islanders, myself included.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: foodsovereigntynow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mitsuko Hayakawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not support HB849. If residents find state and federal regulations not adequate, counties should be allowed to enact ordinances to protect its citizens. Communities understand their needs better and local governance should be respected. Many residents are concerned about the health and environmental impacts of large usage of pesticides by these corporations. We should not allow large multi-national corporations decide how agriculture should be practiced in Hawaii.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: theede@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Heede	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Another Monsanto Protection Act? Just vote "NO!"

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: russell@insitegrp.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell Hirsch	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am a framer on the Island of Hawaii. I do not need this bill to pass in order to successfully grow and sell my products. This bill is specifically geared toward allowing large multinational chemical companies to create seed and chemical testing fields. If they are allowed to do this on the Island of Hawaii the value of my farm and farm products will be negatively affected. The people of Hawaii have voted by majority to not allow GMO crops to be grown in the County. Please respect the vote of the people rather than the interests of a few chemical companies that will leave our islands as soon as they ruin the soil, destroy the reefs and due irreparable harm to our people. The are here to maximize profit over the short-term and have not interest in paying for the health and environmental damage they will cause. The value of my land and my products is greater by having a GMO-free Hawaii. Oppose HB 849

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:04 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: daniel.hodel@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Hodel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is an outrageous end- run to prevent the people of Hawaii from voting to stop vested, campaign-donating corporate interests from polluting our state and our planet with dangerous GMOs and pesticides, to name just two dire problems legislators are unable to handle given lobbyist and campaign finance pressure. VOTE NO!

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Hello. My name is Aria Juliet Castillo, I am 27 years old, I was born on the island of Kauai, and raised in Brydeswood, Kalaheo, right across from the Kauai Coffee Fields. I am writing in testimony today in opposition to HB849.

The state should be protecting the counties rights to create rules and regulations that fit the unique character and situation of each island.

Mahalo.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:24 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We don't work for corporate America and either corporations work for us, or not at all.
www.WeAreOne.cc

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:31 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makotolane@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
makoto lane	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not go against the rule of the people.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tiarelawrence@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiare Lawrence	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The county deserves the right to decide.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:33 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sharedpleasures@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
vicki levin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: MSMatson@Hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE. IF THE STATE CANNOT MUSTER PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF BIG AG PESTICIDES THEN THE COUNTIES MUST.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jmccay@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James McCay	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: A quick Google behind the Bill's birth is enough to oppose this ALEC/Right to Farm/Koch Brothers

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:37 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mail2dbm@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David B. Merchant	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB849 as an unnecessary and improper restriction on the Counties' abilities to control land use within their boundaries. As was shown by Judge Kurran's decision in the Kauai GMO/Pesticide case, if the Federal or State Government actually "occupy the field" by enacting and enforcing a comprehensive regulatory scheme, the courts will respect those actions and will preclude regulation by cities or counties. However, if the Federal and State Governments have not enacted and do not enforce a comprehensive regulatory scheme in a certain area, then cities and counties should be able to regulate. Put another way, the only way that the cities and counties can regulate is if the Federal and State Governments are not regulating. The legislature should not enact a law that precludes local regulation when there is no Federal or State regulation occupying that particular field. To do so would be to create a field where there is (a) no regulation in place, and (b) no regulation possible. That is not good policy or law. Thank you and I ask you to reject this bill.

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Opposition to HB849

Aloha,

I opposed HB849 which aims to amend Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

I am a small scale organic farmer on the Hamakua Coast. This bill is a very bad idea and would harm small scale farming practices.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Mitts
PO Box 344
Pa'auilo, HI 96776

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:46 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alemorrier@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alicia morrier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:24 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kmurray.testimony@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Murray	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: If you consider Monsanto or Syngenta to be farmers doing agriculture (as they are on ag-zoned lands), then I strongly oppose this bill. If this will allow GMO- farmers to pollute organic farmers' crops, I even more strongly oppose this bill. The rights of farmers to harm others is not to be upheld, (not just having strong odors as is natural), but actual harm like polluting the pure non-GMO seed for the future of whole generations. As much as I want to support farmers, I would like to support them and they need to support us in good health.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 11:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: autumnness@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
autumn ness	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: molivit@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isabelle Olivit	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:09 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: priorityearth@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Yudis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:59 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lucialyou@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM
Attachments: hb849.pages.zip

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucia You	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pattio57@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Osborne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It's time for the legislature of this great state to start working for the people rather than for commercial interests. People matter more than profits. Maui matters more than sugar or seed corn. I am sick to death of this government bowing down to destructive agricultural interests. Do the right thing for Hawaii. Do the right thing for the citizens of Hawaii. Just do the right thing rather than the most profitable thing. Be the honorable people we elected.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:50 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mpahukoa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ann Pahukoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:15 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: yorkcarlton@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlton York	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: brianleewittman@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Wittman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please honor the voters and follow through with required testimony regarding the allowability of GMO. Don't kill the GMO bill!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tampaltin@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this measure. This is the states attempt at an end run around the people's right to protect themselves from big agriculture. The counties are the front lines interacting with people and the places they choose to live. The state can set standards but counties should be free to choose what works best for their own residents those who live there. This measure is an attempt to take the power to decide away from local constituents who will end up living with the impact of decisions made on their behalf. Oppose please

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 7:09 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: psgegen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pat gegen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I support Home Rule. Democracy is best at the lowest levels of government.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: joannaction@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanna Wheelers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is absolutely essential that our rights to protect our children from being exposed to the poisons being tested by the chem cartel are protected. The international polluters using Hawaii's agricultural lands not to feed the people but to test the most toxic poisons known to man should not be allowed to hurt our keiki anymore. They have shown no respect to life, to the Aina, to anything but to their bottom line. Look at what the chem cartel has done around the World, again and again and again, a legacy of environmental destruction is what they leave behind. They are trying to take away our rights. The people have spoken and we are saying yes to life, yes to respect our children, and everything that is sacred. Enough. The chem cartel needs to be stopped.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:55 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: davidsher@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill which only seeks to protect multinational chemical corporations, and has nothing to do with helping local farmers who are trying to grow food that supports sustainable agriculture.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: watsonblake8@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blake Watson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives, I am asking you as a member of a county that, like any other county in Hawai'i, needs to retain the power to regulate agricultural practices that would be harmful to our precious agricultural lands and native eco-systems. Every island is unique and has different needs than other islands; the current county authority that enjoy to regulate agriculture is vital to preserving and growing a food system that the residents that work here, live here, and elect local officials can be comfortable with. These "right to farm" bills are the typical form taken of bills that are essentially a State preemption of county rights to pass laws that challenge not the best interests of the residents of the county, or even the state, but ultimately that challenge the authority of large corporations that would like to push their unsafe business models on unwilling residents. It is on their behalf that this legislation is written, and as such it is a bad bill and should be strongly opposed. Mahalo, Blake Watson

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stacy@stacyvosberg.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stacy vosberg	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this!!! This does not protect the general public and innocent children and animals with out a voice!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ohialani@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Romanchuk	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: svickery@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Vickery	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Regarding HB 849

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS FORWARD!!! This is an open door for bio tech and until they can prove that their Round Up & Agent Orange are not deforming our unborn and causing terminally ill diseases, WE NEED COUNTY HOMERULE!!!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE! How dare the introducers of this bill! Legislators are well aware the Ag Dept. lacks the political will and funding to properly protect residents; lack of pesticide inspectors, inspectors who call ahead to give the heads up to those inspected, no inspector on Kaua'i for over a year, 72 pesticide complaints and only three of them actually investigated. Then there's the Health Dept., same problems, failure to record data for ten years while Hawai'i families suffer rising birth defects linked to the massive overuse of pesticides. This is not strident hyperbole as evidenced by our Facebook pages filled with suffering Hawai'i parents and their keiki staring out from mainland hospital rooms and ICU units; residents know there is something terribly wrong. You know damn well the state has failed miserably in protecting its residents and now you add insult to injury by introducing a bill that removes counties HRS mandate to protect our life and health. How dare these introducers and any legislator who votes for this psychopathic bill that takes away our last line of defense to protect ourselves. Shame. We will remember.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makena42@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Turner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: "The PRE-EMPTION OF HOME RULE from the counties in this bill is allowing Oahu to bully the other islands with insensitivity to the impacts of a global industry focused on controlling the food supply rather than on the health of the people,"

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: shaw.geoff5@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geoffrey Shaw	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The counties deserve the right to protect its citizens from dangerous practices

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tucker650@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Tucker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Counties in Hawaii are distinct communities which are not contiguous with one another. As such, the people of the counties must have right to questions, oppose, and limit toxic farming practices within their own communities. For this reason and many others, I oppose this bill. Mahalo, Edward "Ted" Tucker, 29 Holomakani Drive, Kula, HI 96790

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:39 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ptowers@panna.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Towers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Committee: On behalf of PAN North America and our approximately 8,500 members across Hawaii, I urge you to oppose this bill. This bill undermines the legislative process and represents the interests of a handful of global pesticide corporations, part of a concerted effort over the last twenty-five years to erode local control over pesticide use and efforts to protect public health over the past twenty-five years. As written, the bill would also undermine laws recently and democratically passed by local governments (Ka uai County, Hawaii County and Maui County), further eroding Home Rule, including efforts that aim to provide residents with more information about pesticide use, as well as reasonable no-spray protection zones near places children live, learn and play. This bill is inconsistent with efforts to honor local rights and promote prosperous agriculture on the islands. I respectfully urge you to oppose this bill. Mahalo, Paul Towers

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Cc: bhaktirocks@earthlink.net
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HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ane takaha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill. please vote no

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Cc: ev@kevcom.com
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HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evan Tector	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Greetings Committee Members, HB 849 is a cynically named bill that purports to protect local farming but really sublimates Hawaii lands to big chemical agriculture concerns, prevents local citizens from protecting their communities, waters and lands from chemical exposures and subverts the local democratic processes of initiative. It also takes away discretion and power from council members and legislators who rightly hold the ability to respond to local concerns and needs of their people by removing on going purviews and lateral. Hawaii needs more democracy and local controls, not less as we seek to find a sustainable way forward in economic activity, environmental protection and community health. Having our people and our visitors continually exposed to air and water born pesticides in close proximity to schools, town, roads, beaches and ocean is not the way to protect our first major industry. Big chemical ag provides relatively few jobs and uses huge swaths of prime ag lands for little local economic gains. We can do better by promoting higher standards, not weakening them against local community concern and interests. The future we are all looking for comes from challenging ourselves toward best practices, not limiting local community inputs to governance and removing incentives for off-shore owned poison using industry to do right by our people and environment. Mahalo for your considerations.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bexter@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Sydney	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is asking for the Hawaiian Constitution to be enforced by protecting the land and natural resources.....this is exactly what the GMO Moratorium is asking to PROTECT MAUI'S RESOURCES FROM CHEMICALS AND LIVING INVASIVE SPECIES THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN FOUND ON THE PLANET BEFORE. Please do not pass this bill. The people of Maui have already VOTED USING DEMOCRACY that we don't want just any kind of agriculture on this island. We want to protect this island from harmful and contaminating crops and chemical methods. Please serve the people!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: gail@gailswanson.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Swanson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:27 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jtrujill@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james trujillo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: aloha members of the committee, please accept this testimony OPPOSED to the passing of HB849. The Hawaii Right to Farm Bill does not need to be amended as proposed by HB849. Reasonable protection from potentially harmful agricultural practices are necessary to protect workers, community members and visitors. HB 849 will remove the local entities from being able to manage what is in the best interest of their constituents. Please vote in opposition to HB 849. Mahalo for your consideration. With respect and aloha, James G Trujillo PO BOX 33 Kapaa, HI

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kstover@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Stover	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Freedom of choice does not have to be legislated, unless the intent is to give certain interests (i.e. Monsanto) unfair advantage. Such action will jeopardize organic farmers since they will be susceptible to toxic drift from GMOs. A really bad idea for Hawaiian agriculture, the people and the island (i.e. a sustainable future).

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HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth C Starr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Do the right thing. It is obvious. Do obstruct the voices and votes of the people of Hawaii nei.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:38 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: islandgirl637@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivian Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: If this is supposed to be a democracy, then please stand by that. All this bill does is take away more of our rights.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:54 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kauaihale@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louisa Wooton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is disappointing to once again see this same legislation before the Hawaii State House. Disguised as "THE RIGHT TO FARM", this bill takes away the rights of the citizens of our state at the county level to have any say in protecting their health, their water, their soil, and their ocean environment from the practices of multi- national chemical enterprises in industrial research operations in Hawaii. Keep home rule, please.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maxgx1hi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Smyth	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: HB 849 is a cynically named bill that purports to protect local farming but really sublimates Hawaii lands to big chemical agriculture concerns, prevents local citizens from protecting their communities, waters and lands from chemical exposures and subverts the local democratic processes of initiative. It also takes away discretion and power from council members and legislators who rightly hold the ability to respond to local concerns and needs of their people by removing on going purviews and lateral. Hawaii needs more democracy and local controls, not less as we seek to find a sustainable way forward in economic activity, environmental protection and community health. Having our people and our visitors continually exposed to air and water born pesticides in close proximity to schools, town, roads, beaches and ocean is not the way to protect our first major industry. Big chemical ag provides relatively few jobs and uses huge swaths of prime ag lands for little local economic gains. We can do better by promoting higher standards, not weakening them against local community concern and interests. The future we are all looking for comes from challenging ourselves toward best practices, not limiting local community inputs to governance and removing incentives for off-shore owned poison using industry to do right by our people and environment. Mahalo for your considerations.

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Cc: jsenhydra@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Silver	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 12:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: drmlsukyo@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr Melissa Yee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. It takes away the powers of the local communities to determine and decide the needs of its own residents. Those who have cosponsored this bill are answering to the requests of national and international interests who have no consideration for the rights of those who will be affected by this global control and takeover. The counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai have fought hard to pass their ballot initiative and county bills because the state government agencies and legislature have not listened the people who aresick and tired of the corporate abuse of natural resources and human labor. I strongly urge you to stop this bill dead in its tracks because it serves no good except to please the lobbyists who are pushing it and the compromised leadership of our House of Representatives who are beholden to corporate campaign contributions. Sincerely, Dr. Melissa Yee Seeds of Truth Phone 292-1179

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill preempts Hawaii's ability to say NO to the Multinational Chemical Companies who want to poison our soil, water and people for profit. Enforce the Moratorium that the people passed in Maui County. No to GE testing in Maui County. Throw this bill out. It is what they are doing around the world to control the people's right to say "no way"! This is a Corporate give away and has NOTHING to do with farming. What they do is NOT farming. If they don't spray cancer causing poisons on their genetically engineered food, it will die. Remember, these are chemical companies spraying poison on crops they call food. This is NOT farming. It's not about feeding starving people like they want you to believe, That is another one of their lies. It's all about their profits. Kick them all out of Hawaii while we still have some biodiversity left. Thanks very much for NOT supporting this bill. Ms. Barbara Barry

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: peggyflute@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy Schecter	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill.

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Cc: ealoi@hawaii.edu
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HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: alikamaui@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Atay	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly Oppose. This Contradicts the " Public Trust Doctrine" that our political forefathers have already put in place.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mschwarz@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Schwarz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: michael@hawaiihealthguide.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Saiz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: OPPOSE Bill HB849. Keep Home Rule for Counties. Why is the Pesticide industry trying to take our right to govern our local community? Please oppose this bill and question the motives of those introducing it.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauileab@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gaylene L Barron	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: diamondbranchhi@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendan Balthazar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We should have the right to farm. So many different counties have different rules. This is one state rules should be same for all.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: randyldna@earthlink.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Rupar	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:15 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dotroyka@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy Ann Royka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Dorothy Ann Royka and I am a taxpaying resident of Kauai County. I am very disappointed with the introduction of HB849. Kauai county needs to determine its own practices regarding agriculture. This bill is designed to usurp the will of the people in the democratic process. Residents of rural Kauai county deserve the right to self determination. And this includes the right to a healthy environment as stated clearly in the Hawaii State Constitution. It would appear that once again the vision of those who are short-sighted and living in an urban environment are pressuring for control of the entire state. Hawaii's future is at stake and that is why Kauai citizens are committed to restoring the aina from decades of pervasive pesticide poisoning. Share a long term vision of 80% food self sufficiency. Envision Kauai as the Organic Garden Island, growing food for the entire state. It is not too late for a course correction. Please vote no on this bill. MALAMA AINA

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 3:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ambrosenterprises@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I oppose HB849

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Committee on Agriculture
Hearing Date: Thursday, February 05, 2015
Time: 8:30 AM
Place: Conference Room 312
In Strong Opposition to HB849

02/3/2015

Dear Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am a constituent of House District 2 writing in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to HB849.

The Counties in the State of Hawaii have the legal prerogative to enact local ordinances that directly protect the health, safety and well-being of their respective residents. HB849 undermines the balance of power between the State and County governments, and puts neighbor island citizens at severe risk of being silenced on issues most pertinent to their County, and the island they call home.

As a Hilo resident, I share this concern. I fear that consolidated State power over agricultural policies will ultimately damage the rural character and pristine environment of Hawaii Island. HB849 will wrongfully strip local governments of the right to enact laws that reflect the demands of their constituents. The State Department of Agriculture can barely manage its current workload due to lack of funding and personnel. How will the HDOA manage agricultural affairs at the county level in a manner that is fair and just to constituents?

Ultimately, County home rule is about protecting the rights of local governments to make sensible choices on behalf of their constituents in an effort to build a safer, more sustainable future. It is very obvious that HB849 will make the Counties vulnerable to intrusion by developers and corporate special interests, as they make plans to capitalize on each county's agricultural resources, which are currently under the purview of the Counties.

Please make the right choice for the future integrity of our agricultural lands. Oppose HB849.

Thank you for your attention,

Megan Blazak
Hilo, HI
House District 2

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:06 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: drodrigues2001@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB849. The people of Hawai'i have rights and these rights should not be circumvented by multinational corporations. HOME RULE! I STRONGLY URGE you to DEFEAT this bill. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify. We are the people and we will not be defeated.

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Testimony opposing HB849 by Dr. Joe Ritter Maui

I am a scientist. I grew up on a farm and I strongly oppose this bill disguised as a right to farm. This bill is being put in place to protect large agrichemical concerns which are poisoning our lands our air and our water. This bill is not about farming or real farmers who grow food it is about big agricultural concerns and ignoring the public trust doctrine.

I began my scientific career by coauthoring several peer reviewed publications in the field of Teratology, - birth defects research. Teratology from the greek word Teras meaning MONSTER is the study of abnormalities of physiological development. I previously held an appointment at the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Management in Hilo. I have also worked in genetics and flew a genetics payload on Pace Shuttle mission STS-91. I am an interdisciplinary scientist and Ph.D. Physicist.

On the research fields of Maui Molokai Oahu and Kauai we see the widespread applications of cocktail herbicides and pesticides with as many as 80 components, where claims of safety from research studies are often based on tests of ONLY a single ingredient, not the combination cocktail applied to crops and through run off and drift applied to us. These combinations are untested. The EPA will confirm this.

30 years ago I developed a novel AI computer program for mining data from decades of birth defects research studies. So at the age of 19 I was the keynote speaker at a Meeting of the Mid Atlantic Reproduction and Teratology Society. I know something about birth defects and toxic chemicals.

Our teams peer reviewed, published research addressed these chemical combinations. We used Wistar rats as a test model for human reproductive systems. We found a significantly increased damaging effect from administering multiple chemicals at the same time.

Often a single chemical administered would cause no or low harm statistically but if multiple chemicals were given together we might see upwards of 50 to 100 % malformed young. Toxicity can be multiplied by 1000! Yes 1000!

This was tremendously helpful in our understanding the biochemical pathways of birth defects, but absolutely disastrous for the animal subjects.

Years of science clearly shows that Chemicals administered together have a multiplicatively bad effect on embryos. This Dangerous Potentative 1000 fold effect of herbicide and pesticide "chemical cocktails" is what terrifies me. You heard these chemical practices are safe? I reject that. It is undeniable that combined doses can have significantly increased negative health effects that tests using single components simply cannot reveal.

Even single components are dangerous: On Maui Nerve agents are being used by Monsanto. The chemical in question is called Methyl Parathion, which is an ACHE, An acetylcholinesterase inhibitor. The chemical action and poison mechanism of the nerve agent is identical in mechanism to the chemical warfare agents Sarin gas and VX gas, outlawed even in the event of war. Production and stockpiling of Sarin was outlawed by the Chemical Weapons Convention

of 1993, and it is classified as a Schedule 1 substance, yet its cousin Parathion is sprayed on fields I drive by every day. I attach here a photo showing this is being sprayed on Monsanto fields on Maui. If you think this is ok vote for no disclosure and no buffer zones. But this is not farming, and it is most certainly not ok. The following is from a Monsanto field on Maui:

Date	Time	Applicator/Certification #	Crop	Farm/Field #	Brand Name & Formulation	RE
7-10-14	10:00 AM	Dante Alejo-D32602 J Cuaresma-D32601 David Ishii-D32618 Norbert Ujile-D32643 N Wheeler-D32620 W.Murashige D32598	Corn wheat	23h6 24h6	Permethrin	1
7-10-14	10:30 AM	Dante Alejo-D32602 J Cuaresma-D32601 David Ishii-D32618 Norbert Ujile-D32643 N Wheeler-D32620 W.Murashige D32598	Corn wheat	18e4 21e4 18h3 21h3 19e2 19h2	Dipel Fujimite Permethrin	1
07-15-14	9:30 AM 10:00	Dante Alejo-D32602 J Cuaresma-D32601 David Ishii-D32618 Norbert Ujile-D32643 N Wheeler-D32620 W.Murashige D32598	Corn wheat	This is Methyl Parathion	PENNCAP-M	2 5
		Dante Alejo-D32602 J Cuaresma-	Corn wheat			

Aerosols are particles suspended in the air. This can include vapor droplets. Aerosols from the African Sahara travel to the United States and affect climate. Aerosols from Kilauea travel from Hawaii Island to Kauai and further causing asthmatic attacks. When damaging aerosols are known to travel thousands of miles it is unfathomable that aerosols from fields are being sprayed next to schools in Hawaii. We must disclose the poisons. There are many documented cases of children going to the hospital in ambulances. If you care about the health of the people or the rights of people, then you must vote for buffers and disclosure. I you don't then don't vote for it.

A real farmer has a right to grow food. Monsanto Dow Bayer BASF Syngenta and other biotech firms do not have the right to poison our land.

Our state constitution says, "The State shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."

I remind you of the constitution of the State of Hawaii article XI-Conservation, control and development of resources:

"Section 1. For the benefit of present and future generations, the State and its political subdivisions shall conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all natural resources, including land, water, air, minerals and energy sources, and shall promote the development and utilization of these resources in a manner consistent with their conservation and in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the State.

All public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of the people."

Our constitution demands that you protect our natural resources. Our constitution does not say poison people and children. Please uphold the public trust doctrine.

Our constitution does not say poison people and children. Please uphold the public trust doctrine.

Dr. Joe Ritter-Kihei Hawaii 96753

House District 11 Senate District 6

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:16 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 2nworb@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
shantee brown	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The county needs to protect its residents. By law our government needs to protect our lives and environment. If the state choses to break the law and allow unsafe agricultural(chemical and genetic)practices our counties are still obligated to make sure no harm is done to its residents.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sethraabe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Seth Raabe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Representatives, Voters are overwhelmingly calling for protection of their health and the environment. They are calling for disclosure of agricultural chemicals being tested and used, and for the assessment of the safety of GMO's. This bill is not any of those things. It is an industry drafted get-out-of-jail-free-card and its only purpose is to shield some of the biggest corporations in our state from regulation and public scrutiny. The people of Hawaii are expecting the legislature to protect THEM, not multinational agri-chemical companies. Vote NO on this bill.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rob@surfbeyond.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Barreca	Counter Culture Food + Ferments	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:09 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ja@malu-aina.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Albertini	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB849 what farmers here call the new Monsanto protection act. I've been a farmer in Kurtistown for 35 years growing a wide range of organic fruits and vegetables --taro, sweet potatoes, bush beans, ginger, bananas, and more than 50 different fruits. In my view, Home rule is crucial. Government works best at the lowest level -- the grassroots level. The higher up we go -- to State, Federal, and international levels, the greater the distance between the decision makers and the people, and the more big money comes into play in buying votes. HB849 is clearly an attempt to preempt County Home Rule by the State on behalf of multinational corporations like Monsanto. The old saying holds true: the higher the monkey goes up the tree, the more you see his okole. Kill this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:35 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stathie@coastpropertieshawaii.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stathie J. Prattas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is a blatant attempt to circumvent County Home Rule to protect its people from unsustainable and environmentally dangerous farming practices that have resulted in significant loss of health of Hawaii's people.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zenkekoa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zen Powers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support the use of chemical fertilizers or pesticides in agriculture that poison our earth. E Mālama Honua!

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:05 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ryhoppster@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Anderson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: the citizens voice needs to be heard by the political process. If the citizens vote for an agricultural practice to be scientifically studied before being tested in the drift-able fields, then that is what must happen. The politicians work for the public. Therefore the public must and should be able to enact laws and enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mele@keaolani.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Polland	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please OPPOSE this horrendous Bill which is nothing more than an end run by Monsanto to get around the fact that Maui County LEGALLY passed a GMO moratorium last Fall. Don't let corporations get away with bypassing THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. The people made a clear statement with their votes last Nov. Please do NOT let this Bill pass!!! Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: djp@kona.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doug Phillips	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:07 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hoalike5@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary M. Barter	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is an assault on democracy. It restricts the right to interfere in anyway with farming practices which are claimed to be the norm, with now proof necessary, when the norm is highly suspect of exposing schoolchildren and others to repeated exposure to toxic materials. We cannot allow toxic materials to be absolutely and forever unregulated in this way. Who is it that has examined the normal, acceptable farming operations and found them safe? Usual, does not equal safe. Would you let your kids go to school downwind of a farming operation that could spray whenever they wanted? Large farming operations, need to be transparent and judicious regarding pesticides use, and to prove that they are.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:52 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: makahababy@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Perry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly and vehemently oppose this Bill in its purpose and language. Individual counties must be able to pass laws and regulations dealing with their own personal health issues regarding agriculture, pesticides, health, and all other food related issues. Restricting the passing of these regulations is a slap in the face to the community surrounding any rural or agriculturally zoned area. People and agriculture can and must be able to live as close neighbors, and certain laws and restrictions can and do help with that process. Each county has its own particular and individual issues, and that is why each county must be able to independantly enact regulations on agricultural businesses as to what is best for their particular community. Any infringement of the right to do this is a slap in the face to the community and their concerns over health, GMO's, pesticide drift, and other key issues involving such industries such as Monsanto, Syngenta, and Dow Chemical. Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony, Sara E. Perry Resident, Waianae, Oahu

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: revjuleshi@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kmbellavita@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
KarenMarie Bellavita	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is with great concern that I strongly oppose this bill that strips away any say of county residents. I am totally against the manipulation of our government by corporations with very self serving agendas. Regardless of how one feels about the pesticide issue this manipulation of power is anti democratic.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:01 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: andreadevonbertoli@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Bertoli	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe particular Counties have a desire to act with greater urgency on issues related to agriculture where the State is FAILING to act when residents STRONGLY indicate they are in favor of it as indicated by the Maui GMO moratorium, the Hawaii island GMO ban and Kauai Bill 2491.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauibrad@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:56 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: carolynblake@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Ornellas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: derbick@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Derek Bickerton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: HB 849 takes away the right of individual counties to determine what agricultural practices are safe for their residents. To do this is to the disadvantage of Hawaii residents and to nobody's advantage save that of large out-of-state corporations who currently take advantage of our state's 3-4 growing seasons to spray 3 or 4 times as much pesticide as in other states. These practices affect some counties more than others, therefore it is essential to preserve the right of individual counties to protect their residents against substances known to be harmful if ingested. Please do not sell out Hawaii residents' right to protect themselves and their children.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:29 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: chelseybilka@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chelsey bilka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:09 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hale.ohia@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Olson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill's restriction of local government's (county) ability to regulate land use and protect public health by requiring environmental review and best management practices for use of agricultural pesticides and genetically modified organisms.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: aniko65@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Avi Okin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is a surrender to the worst kind of large corporation irresponsibility. We need to protect us, the citizens of Hawaii. Monsanto and the likes have tried everything they can to run our state, spew pesticides anywhere they want, and allow for no local protection. This bill is not about farmer's rights, its about corporate greed in controlling our food sources and lives. Never vote for any bill like this and vote NO on HB849.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jdbmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Brann	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We the people of Hawaii, Kaua'i and Maui Counties have passed legislation expressing strong opposition to *HB849 - "The NEW Monsanto Protection Act" and demand enforcement of desired protections from devastating agro-chemical practices. HB 849 attempts to usurp the will of the majority of Hawaii constituents. We the people are ready to diversify our agricultural economy based on sound practices that restore soil vitality and grow healthy products. Not the polluting agrochemical industrial practices.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:19 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rob@browerhomes.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
robert brower	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Each individual county must retain it's statutory ability to enact legislation to protect it's own health and safety. Suggest an amendment that defines open air biotech experiments as not being agricultural activity; this would make bill more palatable, but it still over reaches county home rule.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: colly@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John C Norman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a bad bill that against the wishes of the people and a bow to big business and away to give company's like Monsanto carte blanc to do as they please. Small farmers who keep their products in the islands and benefit locals don't need to poison our land.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauka_man808@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rob Bueller	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: How can you say that the county or a person can't pass a law? I'm for a big believer in Home Rule, please consider voting no on this Bill that is only meant to support and protect the large Seedy companies doing business in our state.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: julianemoto@googlemail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Nemoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Council Members, I, Julia Nemoto, oppose bill HB849 which will make it impossible for the State of Hawaii to home rule on important issues regarding local agriculture and the use of dangerous chemicals and pesticides. Hawaii has a very special and fragile environment which is home to a large number of endangered and unique species. I strongly feel that the ability to home rule is very important in order to protect our environment as well as our local organic farmers from harm posed by big industrial agriculture operations. I am convinced that national laws can not always make sure to be efficient in protecting our unique environment, and that we need the ability to regulate local agriculture on a local level. We are living in a very special place and we need the ability and freedom to make laws in order to protect our water, land and the ocean. Kind regards.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bob-marion@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion McHenry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill as it takes away the rights of the counties to address the needs of it's residents. Over the past two years the county residents have worked hard to address important health issues facing them regarding large agro- chemical companies who are masquerading as farmers. These issues have not been addressed on a state level and each county has differing but equally important needs and issues. Local governing is responsive and understanding of what is needed most in each situation. Please do not pass this bill as it does nothing to address needs of farmers across the state and is only creating a loophole for large multinational companies to use Hawaii as their laboratory with no concern for the health and safety of our beautiful state and it's people and wildlife.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am submitting testimony in strong opposition to HB849 because the people of Hawaii, especially those residing in proximity to where pesticides spraying appears to be causing health issues, have the right to protect themselves from these operations-especially at the county level. HB849 is anti-home rule legislation, and the authority to regulate agricultural practices, especially those companies using massive amounts of Restricted Use pesticides, must remain with the county. HB849 would take away one hundred percent of the authority of the county to regulate agriculture and is an attempt to nullify the recent passage of laws in Kauai and Hawaii Counties, as well as the GMO Moratorium Citizen's Initiative on Maui. Those supporting this bad piece of legislation would have you think their bill is nothing but a pro- farmer's rights effort, but a closer look reveals that HB849 could undermine those practicing sustainable agriculture and farming as it should be. You have taken an oath to protect your constituent's right to have their voices heard-at ALL levels of government, from Neighborhood Boards to the governor's office. Mahalo for voting "no" on HB849.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:58 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kathymayne@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Mayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mercykraft@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercy Kraft	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: k.hokuokalani@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K. Hoku Cabebe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Protect HOME RULE!!! Stop poisoning paradise!!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: manoamusic@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
manoa k martinc	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Protect our Keiki this is very important you all represent the people n need to protect us in that!!! vote NO on this bill

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Ewbank	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly OPPOSE this HB 849. Please take my opposition serious as this is thee most agrevated written piece obscenity. Thank you, Faith Ewbank

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lorrainekohn@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Kohn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 3:42 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: snstgirl@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamilee Carter	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:25 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: terez.amato@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terez Amato Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and all the members of the House Agriculture committee. I am emailing in strong opposition of this measure, HB 849, the Hawai'i Right to Farm Act. This measure is nothing more than a new name for last session's preemption, and is an outright attack on our Counties' right to enact laws that protect their residents. I oppose this effort by large corporations to take away individual and County rights, and humbly ask that you also oppose this measure. Our elected officials work to serve the people of Hawaii, not the pocketbooks for large corporations. Please oppose HB 849. Thank you! Terez Amato-Lindsey, Kihei

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 2kalkout@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Likotu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: susan.cowsmeadow@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Coan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill, because I think counties should have the ability to protect their citizens from unhealthful agricultural practices, for instance resulting from the use of chemicals harmful to human health.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: waioli2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chris kobayashi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: my right to farm will only be better assured if our counties have the ability to enact laws and ordinances regarding all farming practices which affect my island's people and our entire island, from mauka to makai. every island and community is unique with their unique challenges. there is no bandaid, one size fits all. if i was a government official, i would not be so quick and ready to hand over our right and ability to govern one's island. please oppose this measure. thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: suzette@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gloria Marlowe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:46 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bruce.corker@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bruce corker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: 2/3/15 To: House Committee on Agriculture From: Bruce Corker Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB849—Submitted for 2/5/15 Hearing I am a coffee farmer in Holualoa in Hawaii County. I am testifying in strong support for principles of HOME RULE for Hawaii’s Neighbor Island Counties and in strong opposition to HB849. In 2008 Hawaii Country coffee farmers raised concerns that our lucrative Japanese and European export markets were threatened by proposed introduction of GMO coffee and the inevitable contamination of our orchards that would result from cross pollination from GMO coffee trees. It was not the State of Hawaii or the Legislature in Honolulu that acted to protect coffee farmer interests. Rather, it was the County of Hawaii that acted through its HOME RULE powers to prohibit the planting of GMO coffee and taro in Hawaii County. This 2008 County law has protected the economic interests of coffee farmers for more than 6 years. This bill would take away Hawaii County’s authority to exercise HOME RULE powers to protect the interests of Hawaii County farmers on matters where the state has not acted. HOME RULE benefits Neighbor Island farmers. It is in the Counties that the voices of farmers are listened to. HB849 undermines HOME RULE and principles of local government.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:58 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: beamiracle@acrosage.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Marantz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:23 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: p420haze@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter King	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: do not allow HB 849 bill to go through.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:14 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nikita.coulombe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nikita Coulombe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in strong opposition to HB849! Big Ag companies are destroying the land and filling the air and water with toxic pesticides; it would be criminal to allow them to get away with even more than they do now. There should be a bill that demands transparency with companies so they must share what they spray. Please vote NO on Bill 849.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:53 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: keithholland@simmerhawaii.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Holland	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:35 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: keolla12@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine keogh	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I STRONGLY oppose HB849 because I believe each county has the right to vote for their specific needs. I do NOT want the chemical industry Reps to take our rights!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: clareloprinzi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
clare loprinzi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: this bill would deeply effect the organic gardens and agriculture and is a back door to what has been already defined on our islands by the people. NO NO NO...nuff already

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:59 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: marya.mann@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marya Mann	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 3:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mmcardle19@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy McArdle	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha. I strongly oppose HB849 that would strip all Hawaii Counties of the ability to legislate and govern on Home Rule issues of Public Safety concerns. Chem/Ag companies that use ingredients made from Weapons of War, I.e., 2-4D -an Agent Orange Component, along with chemicals banned in other countries like Atrazine, Paraquat and the like threaten Public Safety. The local residents need their elected local decision makers to be able to do their jobs, otherwise, why elect them? HB849 isn't about a Right to Farm; it's about Absolute Rights with Limitless Irresponsibility. HB849 is an affront to our Democracy at its base. Please Vote NO.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:06 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: artgoddess9@earthlink.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brenda Kennerly	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: backonisland@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eileen Kechloian	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The constitution starts with "we the people". The state should take second priority after "we the people". I oppose this bill as it gives the power to the state and takes it away from the people. Agriculture is important but not at the expense of the people/ families that live, breath and play next door. This bill takes away any accountability on the part of farmers to answer to their neighbors for what they are doing to people's health and to the environment. The voters/people who live where there is injustice being perpetrated know better than the people running our state that live on another island. Agriculture should not be given a pass by the state, when it deprives people of their constitutional rights.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: occupyhilomedia@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dave.mulinix@juno.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: BenchCarpenter@gmail.Com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce Mosher	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: While I support family farming I think this bill will be used as a bludgeon by big ag, which I am far less interested in furthering.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: skaye@runbox.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sally kaye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this measure as written. Such preemptive moves restrict local control and are too often abused.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Iritte@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Loretta Ritte	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This a correction of my previous support of HB 849. I am actually in strong opposition of HBD 849.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hariom@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Anderson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly OPPOSE this bill. Farmers may have a "right to farm" however they DO NOT have a "right to cause illness and possibly poison their neighbors" by hiding behind a state or federal law. All citizens and neighborhoods, counties and islands must have a right to protect themselves against harm. I strongly oppose this bill. It attempts to take away the voice of the community. This is not pono.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Mdeycaza@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike deYcaza	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This could give huge corporate farms the right to spray pesticides here that are only legal to use because of their intense lobbying. They are unsafe and counties should be able to ban them.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:06 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lindaamenzies@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: No more agricultural pollution

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Cc: bkdl@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Lehmann	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: drjoeka@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joe kassel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: Rosemary Karlsson <rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 3:21 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: HB849

I oppose HB849.

DO NOT SUPPORT this bill. It is shameful. Hawaii should practice responsible agriculture.

Rosemary Karlsson
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749

16-1885 Uilani Drive
Keaau, HI 96749

808-966-6589

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:25 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
penny levin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The right of farming remains protected without this proposed change in the law. Not one single farmer or rancher under the current conditions of HRS165-4 has been prohibited from farming. The duty of a farmer or rancher to use good sense and best management practices, as well as the duty of the state to protect the health of the people takes precedence over the right of any individual or industry to contaminate our aina and wai, the very things that we depend on for our health. The Hawaii State Constitution spells out clearly that the state, and therefore its legislators, has a duty to protect the health of its people; and yet, with this bill and other pre-emption attempts by the pesticide industry, support from the legislature sends a message that they are more concerned about a corporate bottom line than the very people of these islands, especially our children. Every county has the right and authority to implement more refined and restrictive laws based on existing state and federal law. The legislature would take that right from the counties; essentially silencing the voice of everyone except state lawmakers. That is breach of the very foundations of democracy; it is corpratocracy that makes us no better than a dictatorship. I strongly oppose this bill as a fundamental violation of our Hawaii Constitution.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: AprilHawaii@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
A Kathleen Lee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Legislators of the People and Aina of Hawai'i, I disagree with the idea that this bill will 'limit the rights of farmers and ranchers' but let those farmers and ranchers in their areas determine what they want. That is what RIGHTS are all about! I am shocked at those of you who would advocate to usurp the rights of Counties to determine their own destinies. To engage in the practices sanctioned by big money and chemical companies, should be determined by the people of the locality in which they live. "Buy Local" would be a thing of the past! If the influence of the dictatorial edicts of those who gain favor with political representatives who do not live in the County they affect prevail, we have truly given the rights of those citizens to others who are not personally affected and were not elected by the citizens of their Counties directly. Examples are massive pesticide use that is making many residents sick. How does a State legislator know of these consequences? They do not see the ill persons & ill children, nor do they personally feel their plight. They do not suffer from the economic dilution of Kona coffee that would become contaminated by GMO of other infiltrating species. I plead with your unselfish, altruistic tendencies that are the cause of your dedication to serve this great State in which I am proud to be born in. Do not pass this bill that undermines many hours I have spent in opposition to its very essence; that Counties don't count! The big brother in this case is the State of Hawai'i. It does not speak to this citizen's needs, nor that of my ohana, my daughter's family and my grandchildren who live here, too. Mahalo for searching your heart of hearts to find the true altruism...Wisdom, April Lee and my ohana.

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Cc: ofstone@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeri Di Pietro	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly oppose Amending Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices. Each county has the right to home rule and to protect our individual island communities. It would be a dangerous mistake to give up this law in a sweeping and broad stroke. Decisions of this magnitude must have the opportunity to be weighed on a case by case basis by community and decision makers, as well as cultural practitioners. The right to farm legislation is being pushed across the country to give more power to corporate interests, while providing no benefit to local jurisdiction. We would be foolish to allow our rights of home rule to be abolished. Please do not give away our power.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:33 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: caveguy@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lars Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill. We must prevent big businesses such as Monsanto and Dow from being allowed to take over and pollute our Hawaiian agricultural lands. Mahalo!

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:34 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: josh@eighthaxis.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Heitz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is designed to overpower the legislation we have already passed limiting the rights of Monsato with regard to dangerous and unethical experimentation.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:26 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: aa44ce7e@opayq.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Land	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lafleurtour@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve LaFleur	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: this bill allows the corporate takeover of Hawaiian lands if passed...please oppose

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: krjohnson_msw@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am writing to urge you to oppose HB 849, a bill designed take away home rule and consolidate control over all types of agriculture at the state level. HB 849 would strip counties and localities in Hawaii of their abilities to craft appropriate county-wide agricultural policies by giving exclusive regulatory power over agriculture to the state. This includes overruling and eliminating already existing county laws, and prohibiting any new county laws. HB 849 is simply a means for large biotechnology and seed companies to control our food and farms. I ask that you reject this undemocratic bill. The people of the outer islands have made it abundantly clear that we have concerns regarding the pesticide exposure we are facing, due to the large biotech experiments in our communities. To take away the voice and power of the people in these areas, and consolidate the power in Honolulu, is highly undemocratic and does not represent the will of the people. I urge you to oppose HB 849. Kathryn Johnson Lihue, HI

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: olindaorganicfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill. We must prevent big businesses such as Monsanto and Dow from being allowed to take over and pollute our Hawaiian agricultural lands. Mahalo!

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sairam2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geoffrey Lasr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is another attempt for people who do not live in a community to dictate to communities on how they should live Small communities and counties should be able to decide for themselves what is good and not good for there way of life. This is a bill set up to support corporate interests at the expense of local communities I strongly oppose this attempt to undermine our basic rights

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sd3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Douglas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dubieldesign@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rexann Dubiel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: What is democracy? It's the right of the people who are governed to make decisions regarding their welfare. To eliminate HOME RULE, which HB849 does, silences democracy. Please don't be swayed by big agriculture.....protect the rights of every Hawaiian citizen to speak up on each island, to do what's right for his or her neighborhood, to keep it safe. That obligation was entrusted to you when you took the oath of office on Opening Day. You have a responsibility to your constituents.....do it well and do it right. Vote no on HB 849.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:38 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: haydn.huntley@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Haydn Huntley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I'm a small farmer on Maui and I'm against this bill. It would allow companies like Monsanto to continue their open air testing of pesticide cocktails and GMO crops, to the detriment of everyone living downwind. On Maui, the engine of our economy is tourism. The relatively tiny amounts of money which Monsanto contributes to our economy are at risk of damaging our tourism industry. It makes no sense to continue to take these risks. DDT and Agent Orange were both Monsanto products which they used to claim were safe. What will we find next? How many years will it affect tourism here, and how severely? By the way, I'm also a scientist, however my paycheck doesn't come from Monsanto! :-) Haydn Huntley

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:22 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maru11@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darothy Durkac	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Chemical industry reps must not be allowed to take away the people's Home Rule rights. If the people didn't have County Home Rule to pass the Maui GMO moratorium, the Hawaii island GMO ban and Kauai Bill 2491, the chemical industry wouldn't be trying to take it from Hawaiians. Keep County Home Rule to protect the people, animals and land. Aina strong.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:27 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 1:47 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: janineehlis@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janine Ehlis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: please appose this bill, it will only help the corporations and not the small farmers. It will also make Monsanto's unstoppable. I'm a single mother of two fighting cancer and fighting for clean soil, air and water. This is a evil bill please think of the people not the corporations.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:13 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: horstman@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ed Horstman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I think this bill is a good idea

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:44 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: progressive.conservation@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Eisen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Agricultural land uses, just like any other types of intensive land uses, have the clear potential to generate significant impacts to the local environment, and thus the affected local government should not be prohibited from being able to take reasonable measures to minimize or mitigate those impacts.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:31 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: juggler@aloha.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Graham Ellis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:09 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: brimohi@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Emmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: You folks won't protect us, at least let us try to convince the counties to do it! No Big Ag giveaways!

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:18 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: johannaholland@simmerhawaii.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hanne j Holland	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marjorie erway	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill -- Counties need to be able to care for the rights of farmers and ranchers as is appropriate for each County. This is a direct 'slap' at the Hawaii Island's GMO bill. Ignore it and oppose it completely, please.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zacharyhitchcock@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary Hitchcock	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Legislature, We have rights as individuals and property owners that should not be limited by existing practices of industry and agriculture. These operations must be responsible when populations expand into their operations. Practices should be modified if they can potentially expose or harm anyone near an operation. Population growth is inevitable, and it may conflict with established operations. Our health and our rights as individuals is much more important than any commercial or private operations. Aloha and Mahalo, Zachary Hitchcock

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 2:38 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jkimof@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james Kimo Falconer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear members of the Agriculture Committee, Please support HB 849. The right to farm is inherent for the Hawaii's continued chance to succeed. Attacks from idealogical opponents to Ag are pushing our next generation of farmers away. Hawaii needs support to allow us to be less dependent on out of State food suppliers. Mahalo, James Kimo Falconer, President MauiGrown Coffee, Inc.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: write-maui@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ralph Hendrickson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly oppose. Our community has spoken.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: babaku@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
douglas Fox	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is one of the worst bills I have ever seen.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: yvonneheitz@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
yvonne heitz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:11 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: afrancokaupo@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Franco	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:00 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: anthuriumz@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
wynnie hee	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Very disappointed to see so many good representatives of the people signing their names to this bad bill designed to take away -- in particular -- our neighbor island counties' rights to protect our people from big biotech corporations' spraying of undiscl osed poisons close to homes and schools. Counties need to protect their people from HARMFUL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES when the state won't! Do NOT take away counties' rights. Please KILL THIS BILL NOW.

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:57 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: ronsan2224@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald S. Fujiyoshi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe in Home Rule. In other words, I expect my County Council members to protect my rights as a resident of the County of Hawaii. I expect my council members to protect me from large pesticide corporations that have lobbied the US federal agencies to provide minimum protection against the ill effects of pesticides. I think my council members can better protect my interests. Thank you for allowing me to testify!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:00 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: carol@hartfeltkauai.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Hart	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha. I vehemently oppose HB849 that strips the ability of the individual counties to protect their citizens from agricultural practices that are harmful to our communities, waterways, air, and soils. We have worked long and hard to get buffer zones and disclosure here on Kaua'i, and those of us who live in these communities (Kekaha and Waimea) are affected on a daily basis to exposure to chemicals, dust containing chemicals, and GMO contamination in our gardens. I personally have become quite sensitized to the effects of chemical drift, and know several friends who have had to move away to protect their health. These were responsible, caring people, some of which are kanaka maoli who have lived on the Westside for generations. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: legacy@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
g	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I manage 37 vacation rentals. All visitors must sign poison disclosures upon arrival. They sign extra disclosures if they arrive driving a convertible, they sign disclosure if they use the snorkel gear or any beach gear. Many decide not to stay and endure the poison once they know how much and of what types are being sprayed. Most are shocked to know that what they thought was paradise was really just a bank account for our local politicians.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 5:58 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lauryn@poai.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lauryn galindo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB849 as it prevents local citizens from controlling the safety of their environment and gives biotech companies the green light to keep poisoning our precious islands. We need to maintain the ability of the counties to act in accordance with the wishes of their citizens! Thank you for your consideration.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:01 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alexahatton33@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alexahatton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: PLEASE NO! Keep Maui healthy!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:29 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: annietbi@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Gommers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Do not pass this Bill! This takes any control for our future as an independent State away from us and throws us into the hands of the Corporations and towards big AG specifically...they do want our State to exercise our voice....so that they can grow four times the harvests per year here in our good weather and spray four times the pesticides under the cover of federal regulations on pesticide use that were designed for one crop farming on the mainland versus our situation in Hawaii where three to four crops are grown here per year.. Our land and water cannot tolerate four times the pesticide load and it will and has affected the health of your constituents. We need to protect and honor the voices of the public and our rights to govern ourselves. Thank you for protecting the people of Hawaii by voting NO on Bill 849. And thank you for your service.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: t.harris926@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tracy harris	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: In regard to this bill, please amend the HB 849 Status RELATING TO AGRICULTURE. Amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices. AGR, JUD Each county in our state should have the right to limit or ban the use of anything questionably harmful to the land, resources and people of the county. It is unlawful to implement a statewide mandate on a topic so sensitive to The Hawaiian culture. Third party testing, that has been conducted over an extensive amount of time, 10-15 years versus 30 days, should be mandated and as representatives of the Hawaiian people, you need to PROTECT and Always have the best interest of the people and NOT the best interest of chemical and bio tech companies. I truly hope none of you line your pockets with monies from such deceptive practices as those from Monsanto, Pioneer, DuPont and the many other companies who have purchased precious land here to use it as a breeding ground for science experiments that have proven, documented cases of causing serious illnesses, disease and harm to people, animals, the ecosystem and those local farmers who are trying to offer Hawaii's people safe, organic and non-GMO agriculture. You should all be passing bills to PROTECT this land and INVEST to provide funding toward sustainable Eco practices like our Organic farmers! Not hide behind a law that protects outside non-local companies that ou have their own agendas. DO NOT pass this bill, for the love of your sacred land, precious inhabitants, and morally ethical wellbeing. Mahalo.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:06 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kiele.aloha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiko Gonzalez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I definitely want to see more agriculture in general, but I don't think some practices, like pesticide use, should go unchecked. Thus I feel I must oppose this bill. What is currently lawful for agribusiness is not necessarily healthy for people or the environment. I want to encourage more farming, but specifically more healthy farming—healthy for people, healthy for the environment, healthy for our ground water supply, and healthy for our future. I don't believe this bill supports that, and so I encourage you to oppose this bill.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:51 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mauiocanmama@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Harrelson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY HB849

I oppose HB849 that amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices. Although this bill presents itself as protecting local farmers and ranchers, it is actually an attempt by outside vested interests to usurp the rightful power of counties to enact laws, ordinances, and resolutions to protect the rights of local residents, including local farmers and ranchers in relation to agricultural practices.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:08 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: paikoman@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Hallett	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, Mahalo for reading my testimony. I believe that it is imperative that Counties may speak out and make laws for themselves especially regarding health and safety. All the islands in our chain are unique and the people on them have different issues they face. There is no such thing as one size fits all laws on all islands. Home rule must remain unadulterated. The rights of all must be safeguarded ... not just a few. I strongly OPPOSE this bill. All farmers/gardeners/ag must remain protected, If one method of farming could possibly render another's farming method worthless (or harm land, product value, or any living thing), the 1st method must be regulated. Mahalo for upholding the rights of all.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: adam.lottig@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
adam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:36 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: baltemus@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Altemus	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:04 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kalikoamona@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaliko Amona	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HB 849

I am writing from California to oppose HB 849, which would take away the rights of local government and community to challenge questionable agricultural practices, including those that have not been proven safe. By restricting the county's power to enact laws, resolutions, or ordinances, this bill would grant farmers and ranchers (the terms "farmers" and "ranchers" extending to large agricultural corporations) the kind of unaccountability that leads to damaging land and people. The power to voice and legislate objection belongs to the people and the county government that represents their needs and wishes.

Sincerely,

Madeline Aranda

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:37 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: babesagainstbiotech@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nomi Carmona	Babes Against Biotech	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 2:47 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lbaron@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Baron	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair and members of the Committee, I'm writing to you in opposition to HB849. We've seen the powerful community organizing work of citizens protecting their communities, their environment and their families' health. The rights of businesses, especially multinational corporations, must not be put before communities' interests. Please support home rule and vote against HB849. Mahalo, Laurie Baron

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: beausephine@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beau Barthel-Blair	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: You must OPPOSE this undisguised intent to take away local rights to protect citizens. HB849 is an obvious attempt to vacate the voice of the people in Hawaii, and crush any opposition to the corporate take-over of the agricultural freedom we need in Hawaii to grow and feed ourselves clean, healthy food. Do not vote in favor of this bill HB849- throw it out NOW!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:45 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Robert@HawaiiSustainable.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bence	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, This is my first time submitting testimony and last November was my first time voting but it won't be the last. I grew up here in Kula, where like most of our state, farming and ranching has been the key to all aspects of life for generations. Growing up I learned the importance of the constitution and the law of the splintered paddle both of these fundamental rules of our society require our representatives to stand up against the tyranny of corporations with horrific track records such as Monsanto to stop them from crushing the little people. Since graduating from UH Manoa, I have been a full-time commercial farmer on over 24 acres of family land. The vast majority of my fellow farmers and the citizens of three counties feel very strongly that the right to protect the will of the people to regulate GMO is of paramount importance. Please don't allow HB 849 to deprive our counties of the critical right to regulate these chemical companies that masquerade as farmers. As we learned in the last election, money does not have the same power to defeat the will of the people as it once did. We the people are resolved in our commitment to do what is right. Please use your power to help the counties do what is right and oppose HB 849. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:52 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mmlake@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Blake	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose HB849. Taking away rights of individual counties to regulate their own lands is not proper. Home rule is needed to handle the various islands as their own people decide. There is a great deal of variation between the various islands and the individual counties better understand how to take care of their own people and lands. Please oppose HB849. Thank you.
Michelle Blake, MD

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:48 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: saljobst@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sallyjane Bodnar	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is very important for local people to be able to govern themselves. We must be able to democratically influence the regulations we live with. Agriculture, especially, must be able to be influenced at the county level, because those are the people most affected by the policies.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 7:42 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bbbtutu@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Bonse	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Any bill that would limit the ability of local government to hear and properly respond to their constituents' needs and desires is not a bill that is FOR the people. This bill to pre-empt our county rights to home rule is a dark and dangerous idea, put forth by people who are more interested in pursuing their monopolistic views than in doing what is best for Hawaii's people and land. This bill does not protect the right to farm, it protects giant chemical companies who pour money into our universities in order to further their profits. It is detrimental to all people and to our form of government. I strongly urge legislators to reject this bill and hold fast to their own rights to govern. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:03 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bjborgnino@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Borgnino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is negating " home rule". Communities should have control of their local communities. This takes away our community's civil rights.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 5:58 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: 79dd984d@opayq.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sophia bowart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:39 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: info@courtneybruch.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Bruch	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly demand you oppose this bill. We the people demand that our county home rule be upheld. Mahalo. We also don't want legislators to keep sleeping in this type of measure. It makes those in favor look bad and creates distrust.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:17 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: sylviacabralmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sylvia cabral	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: do not let chemical industry reps take our rights. The countys have spoken, now let us take care of our islands.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:57 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Sylvia@Kolealea.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Cenzano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:31 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: pfdevries108@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter deVries	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This measure is based on faulty and misguided information with respect to its comments on technology on page 3. When the technology in question is GMO technology the claims are not supported by scientific research. I strongly urge you to reconsider your support of this bill. It was not written with the best interests of the people and the land in mind.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:20 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dylanhooser@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Dylan Hooser, 33 years old, born and raised on the island of Kaua'i. I am submitting written testimony in opposition to HB849. I feel that this bill would really hurt our islands. It is crucial for each of our diverse counties to be able to pass laws that deal with each our unique ecosystems. Each and every one of our islands face unique situations brought on by farming, and those rights should not be taken away from our counties. We need to be able protect our unique, diverse, and limited natural resources from abusive farming practices. Please join me and others in opposition of bill HB849. Mahalo for your time, Dylan Hooser

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:10 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: leimomikekina@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Dierks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:47 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dave_r_doyle@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David R. Doyle	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. Please don't sacrifice our democratic rights to large corporations who call themselves farmers. Retail our right to Home Rule, and protect our true farmers.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:49 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dukesohana@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly Dukes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**THE ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS OF THE
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
404 WARD AVE.
SUITE 200
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814**

February 4, 2015

RE: Testimony by the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii in strong opposition of HB 849 relating to Agriculture

Aloha Mai Kakou,

House Agricultural Committee chair Clift Tsuji and esteemed members of the committee.

My name is Juanita Brown Kawamoto and I am the Chairperson of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii.

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii is in strong opposition of HB 849. The amendment proposed in this bill will create a bad precedence in allowing large commercial agricultural entities the benefits and privileges solely sustained for small family farming currently established through the Right to Farm act. The current non-local corporate commercial farms that seek to confuse the community and government by stating their technology is providing the same benefits local Hawaii family farms provide for Hawaii's economy and community is the beginning of the end for County home rule and community civil rights. The misrepresentation proposed in this bill is meant to deceive the public into believing home rule in the counties should be eliminated by allowing federal and state jurisdiction to overthrow the grassroots and foundation of every precinct and district in the State of Hawaii. Will history repeat itself as the Hawaiian National citizens suffered when the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom was purported by the same corporate like shills whose only purpose is to take away citizen's rights, freedoms and their pursuit of happiness?

We strongly urge this committee to kill HB 849.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Juanita Brown Kawamoto
Chairperson
ECDPH

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: eyrejen@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jennifer eyre	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a sneaky abhorrent and misleading bill not in the interest of real farmers but in the interest of biotech companies and it must be **OPPOSED!!!** The issues of our rights as voters to decide for our own counties and state are being trampled on by corporations. **WE VOTED** on Maui for safety tests and a GMO moratorium for our islands health and safety. The corporations **NOT FARMERS** want to deny our legal rights which are in the State constitution. **BAD BAD BAD!!!** Shame on any legislator falling for their falsity and coercion! Oppose HB 849!

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From: Paul Fenelon <7maui5@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:24 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Subject: SB849

Aloha 'Aina. The right to protect and uphold the Public Trust Doctrine. If the federal and state regulatory agencies won't practice Aloha 'Aina, we as a county have the duty to do so.

My family OPPOSES sb849. This bill is meant to protect the large multi- national corporations who conduct open air GMO and Chemical Experiments here, just down the street from us, under the false pretense of "agriculture"

As a county, we have specific needs and issues facing us. We have the right to protect our health, our community, and our resources for future generations to come.

Corporations have infiltrated virtually all aspects of government and regulatory agencies. The last bastion of democracy often lies in the county or town.

This year, here on Maui, we passed the first ever successful citizens initiative. Some call it the "Maui Miracle" Our community united to protect ourselves- to stand up against MILLIONS and intense propaganda to protect our beloved community. A bill such as sb849 would destroy us- the PEOPLE- you are supposed to represent. Corporations are NOT people. We implore you to not allow this bill to proceed.

Let's work on TRUE AG reform, where local farmers who malama the 'aina and produce REAL food that we eat locally can benefit. This bill is not meant to protect anyone but big business, biotech and those that hope to never have to answer to a concerned community. After all, we are getting sued by companies who spent a combined \$7 million to AVOID \$500k in environmental and health impact studies. After 2 decades we deserve some answers, hoping it's not too late. Please defend a county's right to home rule and join us in opposing sb849 Mahalo Paul Fenelon

2817 Panepoo st.
Kihei Hi. 96753

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:19 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: randaljfrench@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy French	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Our representatives need to work for the people and stop allowing big business to manipulate their bills. This bill reeks of big business trying to stop what the PEOPLE have started, time for our representatives to stand up work for our wishes!

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Bisonian808@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Friedmann	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I appreciate the County Home Rule and do not want to see these rights take away from citizens of the county, Mahalo.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:32 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: maefuimaono@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Fuimaono	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

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4 Pepeluali 2015

Hamakualoa, Maui, Hawai`i

Esteemed Representatives,

ʻO Trinette Furtado ko`u inoa. Noho wau ma Hamakualoa, ma ka mokupuni o Maui.
I am writing to politely request that you OPPOSE HB849: Relating to Agriculture.

As a Kanaka born and raised on Maui, I have seen our local food growing regions taken over by development or large-scale AgroChem “farming” operations with questionable practices. I am concerned about the health, vitality and continuing welfare of our meager island resources. I am concerned for the future health and availability of such resources for my young daughter. As such, I strongly believe that the state should NOT remove the opportunity for individual counties to enact laws that specifically protect that county, especially when it is painfully apparent that existing state laws or regulations are broader and do not take into account areas around schools, elderly communities, densely populated areas, etc.

I believe that have a top-down or O`ahu-centric way of oversight for an entire island chain spread out over quite a bit of water is audacious, to say the least.

Allowing this bill to pass essentially sends a message to anyone (or any company) desiring to farm for profit here in these islands need only call themselves “farmer” or claim “agriculture exemption” and do business as they please, when they please, where they please. That, dear representatives, is not upholding the public trust; it is not working in the best interests and well-being of your constituents and only serves to put you in an unfavorable light.

GMO “farming” practices and operations are an obvious and immediate concern for many residents across the state. That many studies have been done to prove the “safety” or “efficacy” of these products and/or the means to produce them DOESNT PROVE SAFETY OR EFFICACY IN HAWAI`I NEI!
Please make no mistake nor get caught in semantics: farming IS FOR PROFIT and not for “feeding the world”. Residents of these islands who care about our precious resources (that continue to bring visitors to these pristine islands) want and deserve food sovereignty and food security. That many of these “farmers” don’t even grow food, let alone grow it for sale/consumption here, is a travesty.
Perhaps a bill relating to growth and sales of agricultural produce in these islands would better serve the people of these islands rather than an underhanded attempt at regulation PEOPLE instead of corporations.

I hope you will consider this testimony and that of others and OPPOSE FURTHER PASSAGE OF THIS BILL.

Mahalo nui,
Trinette Furtado

To: Our Representatives 2/5/2015

HB849 OPPOSED

I am OPPOSED to HB849. This "right to farm" bill is an attempt to take away the power of counties to protect their people. If farming is done with Natural Farming or Permaculture methods, there would be no complaints from neighbors, as their property value would go up, air would become cleaner, and increased biodiversity and soil fertility will have also brought rain to the areas.

HB849 is written from an older WWII paradigm / mindset of chemical warfare as the sustainable answer and a kind of confusion regarding what is "technology" and "inputs" (i.e. heavy chemicals) that are inorganic are necessary in "agriculture." Actually this paradigm is more about protecting chemical companies' relevance given that the natural foods industry is 3x that of big pharma companies. This would in effect open up the counties to undisclosed pesticides or strangely untested viruses in embedded into formerly unadulterated vegetables.

Excellent, gourmet-like, nutrient-dense food is being produced around the world in systems that emphasize live soil microorganisms, ecosystems, buddy plants, biodiversity and soil rejuvenation. - These permaculture type systems emphasize the flow of natural patterns and integrate well with the greater community. There is no sewage or waste due to the microorganisms incorporated. If there are small or big farmers harming their neighbors, the government should be focusing on aiding in the transition of these farmers to higher yielding natural farming methods like the one outlined below biodynamic food systems instead of taking away local people's right to protect themselves. The government should focus on the protocol of soil remediation to pure and safe soil that is alive and well.. Organic food is the fastest growing sector in CA at a rate of 19% a year. The world is going in the organic direction, not towards spraying.

Natural selection (Star Bulletin 1/18/11)

A self-sufficient system of farming is increasing yields across Hawaii

By Susan Essoyan

POSTED: 01:30 a.m. PST, Jan 18, 2011



JAMM AQUINO / JAQUINO@STARADVERTISER.COM

Farmer Samson Delos Reyes walks through rows of kalo at David Wong's Waianae farm. Wong is using a system called natural farming developed in South Korea that has his kalo towering overhead and producing huge basil bushes.

COURTESY MICHAEL DUPONTE

Pigs are thriving in a pig farm in Kurtistown on the Big Island that employs the same farming principles.

JAMM AQUINO / JAQUINO@STARADVERTISER.COM

Instead of using pesticides, bug baits consisting of beer in plastic bottles are hung along rows of Thai basil.

Landowner David Wong, below, stands next to towering kalo and huge basil bushes.

Farmer Samson Delos Reyes reached into his bluejeans pocket to grab a phone call from a buyer and ended up smiling but shaking his head.

The caller wanted to triple her order of his pungent Thai basil, to 60 from 20 cases a week, but S&J Farms of Waianae is already booked solid. Since trying "natural farming" last year under the guidance of a folksy South Korean master farmer known as Han Kyu Cho, Delos Reyes said production on his 10-acre plot has doubled — and demand is growing even faster.

"This is my first time having earthworms on my farm," he said, scooping up a handful of earth and nutrient-rich worm castings in his fingers. "They're cultivating the soil for me."

Unlike conventional or even organic farming, "natural farming" is a self-sufficient system to raise crops and livestock with resources available on the farm. Rather than applying chemical fertilizers, farmers boost the beneficial microbes that occur naturally in the soil by collecting and culturing them with everyday ingredients such as steamed rice and brown sugar. They also feed their crops with solutions containing minerals and amino acids made from castoff items such as eggshells and fish bones.

"What others consider rubbish, we use," Cho told gardeners and farmers at a workshop in Honolulu last month. "Natural farming uses local resources, but you have to give what the plants need, when they need it and in the right amounts."

On land once classified as unsuitable for farming, Delos Reyes' sturdy stalks of Vietnamese kalo now stand taller than he does, and his basil bushes are thick with leaves. He no longer has to buy fertilizer, herbicides or pesticides, and he has cut water use by 30 percent. The indigenous microorganisms in the dirt — bacteria, fungi and protozoa — help nourish his crops. The plants grow hardier because their roots have to reach further to find water, according to Cho.

"You use less water, you use less inputs and you end up with a healthier plant which produces more nutritious food, of a higher quality," said landowner David Wong, who ran Oahu's last dairy on this Waianae property and is working with Delos Reyes in the first commercial operation using Cho's methods on Oahu. "Here's a system that is not freight-dependent, and it changes the economics of how agriculture could be done in Hawaii."



Cho, founder of the Janong Natural Farming Institute in Chungbuk, South Korea, held his first workshop in Hilo last February. Dr. Hoon Park, a retired physician in Hilo, heads Cho Global Natural Farming-USA, a nonprofit that promotes Cho's approach. Its workshop last month was sponsored by the Hawaii FFA Foundation, the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Kamehameha Schools, among others.

Across the state, an unusual piggery in Kurtistown on the Big Island is another showcase for Cho's system of "natural farming." The pig farm's claim to fame: It does not smell or attract flies or even require cleaning. And its pigs are thriving.

"It is the first piggery of this kind in the United States," said Michael DuPonte, a livestock extension agent with the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and a technical adviser on the demonstration project. "It's been in production for 20 months, and I haven't cleaned the piggery yet. It looks the same as the day I opened it. No smell, no flies. It's a combination of the dry litter soaking up all the liquids and the microbes working together to break down the manure."

DuPonte said the idea of not cleaning a pigsty did not sit well with him at first blush. "When Master Cho came to see me, I was a skeptic," DuPonte said. "I asked him, 'What about disease?' You don't clean a piggery in Hawaii, guarantee your pigs are going to get sick. He said, 'Don't worry about disease. The microbes will take care of that.' I didn't believe him."

But after a trip to Korea to see a piggery in action, DuPonte became a convert. The Kang Farms "Inoculated Dry Litter System" piggery building, opened in August 2009 in Kurtistown, measures 30 by 60 feet and handles up to 125 pigs. It uses natural ventilation and is oriented for sunlight. The pens are filled with a deep bed of dry sawdust and wood chips, spiked with microorganisms cultivated from local soil that help break down the manure. The pigs are fed rations made from agricultural waste, including sweet potatoes, macadamia nuts and bananas.

DuPonte says the pigs seem "stress-free and contented," and they are good neighbors because the piggery produces no waste, runoff or telltale smell. That is important for Hawaii's swine farmers, who have been pushed from one location after another by urbanization and complaints from neighbors. The piggery project was supported by the University of Hawaii, Farm Pilot Project Coordination, Hawaii County and Agribusiness Development Corp., among others.

"Pig farmers are very, very interested in the system," DuPonte said. "I've had 50 people come in and ask me if I would build these piggeries in their place. It's going to take off, mainly because of lack of odor. Pig farmers have been kicked out of Kam IV Road and then Hawaii Kai, and now they're getting challenges in Waianae and they don't know where they are going to go next."

Versions of natural farming have been practiced for generations in Asia. But scientific proof of its efficacy is hard to come by because it is a complex system that adapts to local conditions, said Ted Radovich, assistant specialist in the Sustainable and Organic Farming Systems Laboratory at the UH College of Tropical Agriculture.

"It looks like there is value there," Radovich said. "There is increasing interest in doing research. While I think there is potential, we're quite a way from understanding how it works."

He said the appeal of Cho's approach in Hawaii lies in its "localness." "Any system that makes some inroads into decreasing our reliance on external inputs and improving the profitability of our local farms is important to consider," he said. "We're not at the point where we can make recommendations yet."

DuPonte estimates that 150 people are practicing "natural farming" techniques in the Hilo area, mainly backyard farmers and gardeners.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is offering small grants to a few farmers in each Hawaii county who want to try converting part of their fields to natural farming, though not livestock. DuPonte said the ideal candidate is a farmer with about two acres, who would use the money to cover the cost of switching to "natural farming" on a quarter of an acre and keep track of costs and yields.

Cho will return for another workshop in July in Kohala, and he urged folks to give "natural farming" a whirl. "Don't doubt," he said through an interpreter. "Just jump in and try and practice and see how it works out."

<http://www.prwatch.org/news/2011/08/10922/alec-exposed-protecting-factory-farms-and-sewage-sludge>

Posted by Jill Richardson on August 04, 2011

ALEC Exposed: Protecting Factory Farms and Sewage Sludge?

As suburbs engulfed the rural landscape in the boom following World War II, many family farmers found themselves with new neighbors who were annoyed by the sound of crowing roosters, the smell of animal manure, or the rumble of farming equipment. In defense of family farming,

Massachusetts passed the first "Right to Farm" law in 1979, to protect these farmers against their new suburban neighbors filing illegitimate nuisance lawsuits against them when, in fact, the farms were there first. Since then, every state has passed some kind of protection for family farms, which are pillars of our communities and the backbone of a sensible system of sustainable agriculture. However, in the past few decades, intensive corporatization of farming has threatened both the future of family farming and the ability of neighbors to regulate the development of industrial agricultural operations that have transmogrified many farms into factories. Small-scale farms that resembled Old MacDonald's farm (with an oink oink here and a moo moo there) have increasingly disappeared or been turned into enormous livestock confinements with literal lagoons of liquified manure and urine, super-concentrated smells that could make a skunk faint, or vast fields of monoculture crops grown with a myriad of chemicals and pesticides and sometimes even sewage sludge. For example, the decade before the first right to farm law was passed, it took one million family farms to raise nearly 60 million pigs but by 2001, less than ten percent (80,000 farms) were growing the same number of pigs.

Capitalizing on the sentiment of protecting traditional farming, giant agribusiness interests have convinced some states to revise their Right to Farm laws to stealthily protect the most egregious of industrial farming practices from legitimate nuisance suits. The Center for Media & Democracy has recently exposed and analyzed a cache of bills voted on by corporations and politicians behind closed doors and then introduced in state legislatures without any notice to the public of the role of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) bill factory in the production of the legislation and no disclosure of the fact that corporations pre-voted on the bills, let alone disclosures of the names of those companies. In 1996, ALEC suddenly took an interest in expanding right to farm laws. ALEC's corporate backers, unsurprisingly, hale from the factory farm side of the equation. ALEC's Corporate Backers ALEC's corporate members and funders have included a number of agriculture interests, including Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), Cargill, and DuPont, as well as industry organizations like the National Pork Producers Council, the Illinois Corn Marketing Board, and the Illinois Soybean Association. Cargill is the nation's second largest beef processor, third largest turkey processor, and fourth largest pork processor. In three other areas, flour milling, soybean crushing, and production of animal feed, ADM joins Cargill as the biggest in the industry. Chemical giant DuPont is one of the world's largest makers of numerous pesticides, and in 1999, it purchased seed giant Pioneer Hi-Bred, the world's top seller of corn seeds, including genetically engineered seeds. Unlike the corporations, the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) is actually led by farmers ... and lobbyists for multinational pork processors, like Don Butler, past president of NPPC and lobbyist for Smithfield Foods, the largest pork processor in the world. The farmers who lead NPPC tend to own farms similar to that of NPPC president Doug Wolf. Wolf's farm produces 24,000 hogs per year - and it also has a beef feedlot and 1,200 acres of corn, soy, and alfalfa.

Perhaps the most surprising "agribusiness" donor to ALEC is the most powerful of all: Koch Industries. It turns out that an early part of the Koch empire was the Matador Cattle Company, founded in 1952. To this day, Koch Agriculture Company retains Matador Cattle Company, which has about 15,000 cattle. However, in the 1990's, Koch Beef Company was the nation's 10th largest cattle feeder, with feedlots that held up to 165,000 cattle. Koch bought a new feedlot in 1996 and, among other things, decided to expand its capacity by adding 20,000 more cows. The neighbors did not think that was a good idea: Some businesses and farm owners expressed concerns over the health of their employees, some of whom would be housed within 300 feet of Koch's cattle pens. Other neighbors cited concerns over the potential for groundwater pollution, the amount of dirt, insects, and odors added to the area contributing to health problems, a decrease in the quality of life for nearby residents, and the possible devaluation of land. Koch overcame their objections with the ruling of a friendly regulator in Texas, winning the right to expand. With all these corporate interests in limiting regulation of factory farming, thank goodness their pals at ALEC approved a model version of a Right to Farm bill in 1996! Why Corporations Care About Laws For Farmers While nearly all farms in the United States are technically "family farms" (a tiny fraction are owned directly by corporations), multinational agribusiness corporations have a major stake in how these farms are operated. Often family farms take the form of Wolf L & G Farms LLC, the farm owned by the family of Doug Wolf (mentioned above). Particularly for chickens and hogs, individual farmers often contract with meatpackers like Cargill, Smithfield, or Tyson.

In contract farming arrangements, the corporations provide the animals, medications, and feed to the farmers; the farmer is responsible for the animals' housing, manure, and the bodies of animals that die prematurely. When the animals are fully grown, they are picked up by the corporation, which slaughters, processes, and markets the animal and plays the farmer for the weight the animal gained in his or her care. The farmers have most of the debt and risk and the corporation has most of the power and profit. Because the corporations tightly control the conditions in which the animals are raised (specifying how housing is constructed and the use of certain medications, etc., in the farmers' contracts), they would be affected by nuisance claims by neighbors against the conditions they require of the farms. And because they need enough contracted farms in the vicinity of their slaughterhouses to keep the slaughterhouses operating year round, they would find themselves in a pickle if neighbors - and even fellow small farmers - who suddenly found their neighborly family farm mutated into an industrial agriculture operation were able to challenge and shut down animal factories. For non-contract farms, agribusiness corporations' stake in the farms is much more straightforward. They want as many farmers as possible to buy and use their products (or in some cases involving sewage sludge, take the product for free!). If genetically engineered crops, aerial spraying of pesticides, or application of sewage sludge were banned in an area - or subject to nuisance suits from upset neighbors - agribusiness would have to adapt in response to local concerns.

ALEC's Model Right to Farm Act In 1996, ALEC entered the fray with its version of a Right to Farm law. Like many such laws, it protects a farm from a nuisance suit if the farm was established before a change in land use around it (i.e. before a suburb encroached upon a rural agricultural area).

However, the exemption applies even if the farm had a "change in ownership or size," adopted dramatically different "new technology," or changed "the type of farm product being produced." In other words, if the same family farm next door with two pigs and a cow was bought by new owners who built a mega-dairy on the land ... too bad. The types of things that cannot be the subject of a nuisance complaint under the law are defined to include "the use of manure and other nutrients, agricultural waste products, dust, noise, odor, fumes, air pollution, water pollution, food and agricultural processing by-products, care of farm animals and pest infestations."

In ALEC's model bill, neighbors may not intervene in a farm's practices so long as the farm conforms to "generally accepted agriculture and management practices." Furthermore, anyone who brings a nuisance suit against a farm and loses must pay the farm's attorneys' fees and any other costs incurred by the farm as a result of the lawsuit. While such changes would undoubtedly benefit small family farmers, the changes seem much more beneficial to the huge factory farms that were emerging in the 1990s and that dominate the market today. In 2005, Indiana Senate Republicans Bob Jackman, Vic Heinold, and Brandt Hershman introduced an update to the state's Right to Farm law that inserted language similar to that of ALEC's model Right to Farm Act, shielding a farm from nuisance suits even if it changes in size or adopts a new technology. Both Hershman, who is currently the Indian Senate Majority Whip and a member of ALEC, and Jackman are farmers. Jackman operates a contract hog confinement. Heinold, while not a farmer himself, works in corporate agribusiness, and ultimately left the Senate before the end of his term in order to pursue a career with a multinational grain shipping company. A local community that is unhappy about groundwater pollution from a large animal confinement or odor and health problems caused by a farmer spreading sewage sludge on his fields

might try to pass local ordinances that prohibit those practices. Or could -- until 16 states added bans on any local laws that are stricter than the state's laws. Those states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia. Sewage Sludge: More Than a Nuisance Obviously, barring neighbors the ability to file a lawsuit over water pollution, air pollution, by-products or waste products of agricultural processing, and the fumes from the use of manure or other "nutrients" is very far reaching. One product that seems likely to implicate several of these aspects is sewage sludge, which comes from both industrial and human waste flushed down the drains. Over the past several decades sewage sludge, ruled too toxic to dump in oceans, has been promoted as a fertilizer for farms and gardens. Dioxins, PCBs, medical wastes, industrial solvents and chemicals, heavy metals, endocrine disruptors, flame retardants, and pathogens have been found in sewage sludge and sewage sludge derived products marketed to farmers and gardeners (often without any disclosure that the products are made of sewage sludge). Extraordinary odor is just one of the negative attributes of sewage sludge but it is a powerful one. Craig Pataky, a resident of Cottage Grove, Oregon, describes the stench of sewage sludge by saying, "It smells like all the residents of Cottage Grove are taking a crap in a field right down the road." Another Cottage Grove resident, Les Moore, links health problems to the smell. "It was so acrid that I had a severe headache. Never have a bad headache. And I was that close to throwing up," says Moore. A year before, residents of Rio Vista, CA, had the same problem when a nearby farm spread sewage sludge on its fields. "It made you feel energy-less," said Bob Tillisch, a Rio Vista resident who complained about the smell. Sewage sludge, as a currently legal agricultural practice despite the objections of many people, is one of the many "nuisances" covered by Right to Farm laws. - See more at: <http://www.prwatch.org/news/2011/08/10922/alec-exposed-protecting-factory-farms-and-sewage-sludge#sthash.jloKsLWP.dpuf>



House Committee on Agriculture

Hawaii Center for Food Safety Strongly Opposes HB849 Relating to the Right to Farm

Dear Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ashley Lukens and I am the Hawaii Program Director for the Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 600,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including many thousands in Hawaii. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

Hawaii Center for Food Safety **strongly opposes** HB849. HB849 strips away the fundamental rights of all Hawaii counties to regulate their local agriculture and environments. If HB849 becomes law, all local oversight of agricultural would be eliminated – and replaced by a “one size fits all” policy dictated by the state. Worse, HB849 is not even intended as good governance. Rather, it is another attempt by the pesticide industry to trump the will of the Hawaiian people recently expressed at the county level: the bill is a direct response to three county ordinances, passed in 2013-2014, that improve the oversight and transparency of pesticide use and genetically engineered (GE) crops. The bill offers no state regulation as an alternative, just the absence of oversight.

If that is not reason enough to stop this anti-democratic legislation, HB849 will have further far-reaching consequences well beyond pesticides and GE crops, because it strips away the rights of local communities to make all locally appropriate decisions about food and agriculture. Counties, for example, regularly regulate grading and grubbing that impacts agriculture, storm run-off into streams, as well as property taxes and zoning that affect agriculture.

The ability of local governments to govern their own environments in furtherance of the public good is a pillar of democracy as old as our nation. In fact, local governments have the singular ability to craft laws that are specific to their own needs and interests that accounts for their unique locations. This is particularly true of Hawaii, a state made up of very diverse islands. That is why Article XI, Section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution declares that “[a]ll public resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of its people” and the “State and **its subdivisions** shall conserve and protect” those resources. It is also the reason why existing legislative scheme similarly provides the counties with broad police powers to “protect health, life and property” of its residents. HRS § 46-1.5(13). HB849 is contrary to the Public Trust doctrine as embraced in the Hawai'i Constitution and runs afoul the established legislative intent, and should be rejected.

Finally, with regards to GE crop and pesticide oversight, our federal government has unfortunately been severely lacking in protection of the public health, farmers and the environment. As such, local oversight, such as county ordinances, have been instrumental in filling these oversight gaps, in Hawaii and other states. Numerous counties and cities in California, Hawaii, Washington, and Maine have already adopted ordinances to prohibit or restrict the growing of GE crops in their counties, because of their agronomic, public health and environmental impacts.¹ Because HB849 would preempt local authority, giving it only to the state and thus making it impossible to establish needed local oversight on genetically engineered crops or the use of pesticides.

Hawaii has a rich history in protecting the community and island interests. By preserving the autonomy of the counties, you protect public health, the public's right to know, agricultural economy, environmental health, and native ecosystems. In the state of Hawaii, we understand that each island has a different eco-system, and different history, and a different fabric of stakeholders. By removing power from our counties to regulate food and agriculture we are saying that a one-size-fits-all approach works in our state. For all the reasons stated above, we call on you to oppose these bills. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any follow up questions or provide additional analysis.

Respectfully,

Ashley Lukens
Program Director
Hawaii Center for Food Safety

¹See, e.g., Santa Cruz County, Cal., Code of Ordinances, tit. 7, ch. 7.31 (2006); Mendocino County, Cal., Code of Ordinances, tit. 10A, ch. 10A-15 (2004); Marin County, Cal., Code of Ordinances, tit. 6, ch. 6.92 (2004); Trinity County, Cal., Code of Ordinances, tit. 8, ch. 8.25, art. 1 (2004); Hawai'i County, Haw., County Code, ch. 14, art. 15 (2008); Maui County, Haw., Code of Ordinances, tit. 20, ch. 20.38 (2009); San Juan County, Wash., Initiative Measure 2012-4, Ordinance Concerning Prohibitions on the Growing of Genetically Modified Organisms (adopted Nov. 2012).



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

25 Maluniu Ave., Suite 102., PMB 282 • Kailua, HI 96734 • Phone/Fax: (808) 262-0682 E-mail: htf@lava.net

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair

Rep Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair

HB 849

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

February 5, 2015

Committee Chair and members;

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to comprehensive planning and reasonable, responsible and appropriate land use, that amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

If passed HB 849 will deny the counties the ability to establish laws that each island may deem necessary to protect human health, farm workers and farming practices.

HRS 46 46-1.5 (13) General powers and limitation of the counties states that, "Each county shall have the power to enact ordinances deemed necessary to protect health, life and property...."

If HB 849 is passed into law which provision trumps the other the "right of farmers and ranchers" over the counties obligation to protect the health, life and property of everyone?

HB 849 is anti-home rule and must be held in committee.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:43 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: Robert@HawaiiSustainable.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bence	Hawaii Sustainable Farms LLC	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, This is my first time submitting testimony and last November was my first time voting but it won't be the last. I grew up here in Kula, where like most of our state, farming and ranching has been the key to all aspects of life for generations. Growing up I learned the importance of the constitution and the law of the splintered paddle both of these fundamental rules of our society require our representatives to stand up against the tyranny of corporations with horrific track records such as Monsanto to stop them from crushing the little people. Since graduating from UH Manoa, I have been a full-time commercial farmer on over 24 acres of family land. The vast majority of my fellow farmers and the citizens of three counties feel very strongly that the right to protect the will of the people to regulate GMO is of paramount importance. Please don't allow HB 849 to deprive our counties of the critical right to regulate these chemical companies that masquerade as farmers. As we learned in the last election, money does not have the same power to defeat the will of the people as it once did. We the people are resolved in our commitment to do what is right. Please use your power to help the counties do what is right and oppose HB 849. 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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 12:28 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: zacharyhitchcock@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary Hitchcock	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:19 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: honora83@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robertina Honora Kalama	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: You cannot pass this bill. It is unconstitutional! We the people have a right to decide what happens to and what grows on our land.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rangien2010@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Oppose	No

Comments: My name is Puanani Rogers from the Ahupua`a of Kealia, Moku-puni o Kauai. To be an effective government of 8 separate islands. It is highly important that you take every opportunity to strengthen our islands. We are a diverse people with diverse concerns and needs, and therefore, it is the kuleana of each island to empower themselves. That is democracy, that you as the State government has a duty to help them by allowing their rights to HOME RULE. Makes sense??? I await your response. Puanani Rogers (808) 652-1249

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:57 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: o0karoshi0o@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hotoko	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There have been numerous studies which show the harmful effects of GMOs on living creatures and on the environment itself. The products of GMOs may be more affordable to consumers than ones that are naturally produced, but at what cost? Health issues, birth defects, environmental pollution of the land and of the genetic diversity of the ecosystem. I choose to stand against GMOs for the sake of future generations and for the sake of the planet.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:54 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: andrewhuey@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
andrew huey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a deliberate attempt to circumvent the Anti Gmo law enacted by Maui County. If you read the language, intuitively I can tell it was written by seed industry representatives. The fundamental question should be taking a position on whether or not a community should have the ability to decide what is best for the community, or should it be decided by a larger government who does not live in that community, and does not see or feel the affects of practices of private industry on that community. I can only wonder if all the lawmakers at this hearing are even aware of the local community issues of Maui County, or other counties for that matter. Are you aware that a private pre-school and Kamali'i public elementary school are located adjacent to agricultural and pesticidal experiments? All I can ask is to put yourself in my shoes. If your residence or if your son or daughter attended school next to a pesticidal experiment, would you want a U.S. representative from Mississippi deciding what is good for Hawaii ? I am sure, as legislatures, you may understand that this state has specific needs versus a policy set forth by the US federal government. Many of you have surely been frustrated with this reality. Trickled down one more level, This is what is proposed regarding the state deciding what is good or not good for counties. Let's take this issue at face value, this is one aspect an attempt to trump what the VOTERS, meaning the people, have decided. If you have any value in the constitution, you will vote this down as it is an assault on democracy itself. This sets a dangerous precedent if enacted, and is deplorable that state legislators would even consider enacting this measure. It effectively says that the people (voters), and county legislators cannot set policy, or vote on a measure for their own communities. Thank you for your consideration.

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The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Agriculture

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair

Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

Thursday, February 5, 2015; 8:30 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 849
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.B. 849, which amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

In accordance with the State Constitution, the State is obligated to *"conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."* This demonstrates the State's clear commitment to agriculture. Although tourism may be the largest private industry in Hawaii, agriculture is a major part of our economy, not only for the jobs provided and income generated but also for the benefits it provides to tourism by way of open space and green vistas.

H.B. 849 specifically provides that: *"No law, ordinance, or resolution of any unit of local government shall be enacted that abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state law, rules, or regulations."* Currently, federal agencies (Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency) regulate and provide oversight for agriculture in Hawaii. The State relies on research and data from federal agencies to facilitate its role in protecting the health and safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. It is highly problematic for counties to enact ordinances that are beyond their capacity or resources to manage or enforce.

Hawaii is one state, and something as important as agriculture should be governed by the State. The ILWU urges passage of H.B. 849 to make clear that county government may not diminish the rights of farmers and ranchers who engage in permitted agricultural practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:55 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: realjb2@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Je	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is not protecting the ecological health of living things; but instead is to protect the interests of Chem Ag. and to prevent counties from passing ordinances regulating their toxic farming practices.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:30 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: warren@kingfisherconsult.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this law. The State should respect and support the right of voters to decide important farming issues on a county level.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 12:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: waokanaka@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jordan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am against this bill... the people have a right to say no to GMO's that are destroying our Aina in spite of the big Agricultural companies that are bribing, politicians, small farmers and ranchers with legalized pay offs for backing their agendas.

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onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:11 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: natasha@kapali.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
natasha kapali	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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THE HONORABLE CLIFTON TSUJI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Twenty- Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Testimony in **STRONG OPPOSITION** of HB 849 Relating to Agriculture

TESTIMONY OF LANI KAWAHARA

Thursday, February 05, 2015
8:30 am
Conference Room 312

Honorable Representatives:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am in **strong opposition** to HB 849 for the following reasons:

1. HB 849 is a hostile encroachment on the most basic of democratic principles of recognizing and honoring an authorized government authority, democratically elected by its people.
2. HB 849 allows the state to prohibit a local government from enacting laws that preserve health, safety and general welfare.

As elected representatives to our state legislature, it is clear you recognize that the state legislature is a body politic. With all due respect, as elected officials, you must also recognize, then, that a County and its representatives are also a body politic - a group of persons politically organized under a single government authority. The local government (county council) represents its people as a government authority closest to the people and is the legislative entity most knowledgeable, through the democratic legislative process, about that county's daily realities.

The right to enact local laws by local government to preserve health, safety and general welfare should not be taken away at the whim of the state due to high-powered political pressure at the state level.

I strongly oppose HB 849.

Lani Kawahara
PO Box 1565
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:38 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mkelley323@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lu Kelley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB849 which tries to remove our county home rule on GMO and pesticides! We want and need to have county home rule! DO NOT PASS HB849! SAY NO TO HB849, I do! Thank you.

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Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Chairs and Members, I ADAMANTLY OPPOSE this bill and URGE you to NOT PASS this bill!!! Each County has its uniqueness for agricultural production, such as Kauai'i is known for Kalo, Maui for Maui Onions, Hawaii'i for Waimea Strawberries, Molokai for Molokai Corn to name a few. My grandmother Charlotte Werner Kia, use to farm Kalo on her family property in Wainiha, Kauai with no need for chemicals. The chemical was HER HANDS to weed the lo'i. She taught all her mo'opuna the same way. Sure chemicals would make it faster but not PONO! My Aunty Mary Yap farmed flowers and Maui Onions in Kula Maui, she was a founding member of the Maui Onion Board and she too pulled weeds by Hand. If you endorse this bill you are saying the uniqueness of each island doesn't matter to you and you are supporting corporations like Monsanto who are NOT GOOD Land Stewards. If they were they would do the right thing by not polluting any of our islands. The islands are all technically mountains so when the heavy rains come guess where the chemicals go??? In our streams, drinking water and oceans that's where. This bill is written to protect big business not your CONSTITUENTS!!! When are Hawaii'i Legislators going to be LEADERS in the nation by not cow toeing to the corporations. I have been submitting testimony since 1993 asking YOU, THE Hawaii'i Legislature to BAN ROUNDUP and OTHER Pesticides. To date it has not been done. The COUNTIES are protecting their CITIZENS which is WHAT YOU ARE SUPPOSE TO BE DOING!!!! Please, I Beg of you to vote No!!!

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tina@kiheiice.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tina Wildberger	Kihei Ice	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives, ...and I use that term loosely. Do not pass this bill with the misleading title of right to farm. How about: Right to Poison? Hear the people you represent not the corporations here to pillage and profit off of our sacred Aina. Do the right thing for once. This means you, Justin Woodson, this means you, Mr. Speaker. Disappointed in seeing Rep. Thielen as a sponsor... We are watching!

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KILAUEA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

February 4, 2015

Dear Hawaii House of Representatives & Agriculture Subcommittee,

President:
Yoshito L'Hote

Mahalo for accepting this testimony with the best interest of Kaua`i and all individual islands in mind. Based on full agreement of our KNA Board at a public meeting on Feb. 3, 2015 we submit the following:

Vice President:
Alvin Castelo

We OPPOSE HB 849 that amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices. We believe the counties need to retain, even strengthen their ability to determine the use of their lands particularly where it pertains to the extensive use of heavy pesticides by the chemical agriculture industry in which the state and federal governments have shown a clear bias to protect.

Secretary:
Thomas Pickett

Treasurer:
Gary Pacheco

Sergeant-at-arms
Scott Mijares

Please remove the amendment: (b) No law, ordinance, or resolution of any unit of local government shall be enacted that abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural practices not prohibited by federal or state law, rules, or regulations.

PTSA Rep.
Tricia Padilla

The Kilauea community is filled with small farms and is growing with a targeted direction of largely organic food production and markets featuring local products. Much of our population originate from the history of Kilauea Sugar Plantation which includes the recent memory of toxic waste clean-up of legacy chemicals from the Kilauea mill mixing station. The perceived impacts of having the state control the allowance of "farm technology" as defined by the Federal government will affect the major segments of our growing Kilauea economy; those being sustainable agriculture, real estate, and tourism. Healthy agriculture and the fostering of Hawaiian cultural traditions are central to the definition of our entire moku of Ko`olau as well as neighboring Halelea.

Directors:
Mike Latif
Beryl Blaich
Bill Troutman
Tim Kallai
Ken Carlson
Charlie Martin
Carrie Souza
Ron Paul
Tamra Martin

At our July 2, 2013 Kilauea Neighborhood Association meeting the KNA had a unanimous vote endorsing Kauai's Pesticide Disclosure Bill 2491 with overwhelming support from all who attended, including 35 members of the community as well as the entire 14 member board. It was a filled room without one voice of dissent.

The state has shown a clear disregard for containing the over-reach of the industrial-agriculture industry. It is not in our best interest for the state to pre-empt the county's ability to protect the life and health of the land.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Yoshi L'Hote President

Post Office Box 328, Kilauea, Kauai, Hawaii 96754
<http://kna-kauai.org> . Email: joekilauea@gmail.com
<http://facebook.com/kna.kauai>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:33 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii is in strong SUPPORT of HB 849, which amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions to limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

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Cc: klasell1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katharine Lasell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill seeks to remove the County's ability to decide what is safest and healthiest for local people. This is not a matter of the County stopping farmers from practicing agriculture; it is a matter of people having the ability to democratically advocate for the wellbeing of their family and community. I strongly oppose this bill and its attempts to further centralize power and strip people of their right to protect themselves.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 7:56 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: loralynne@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lora Lynne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Third world countries have this protection. Does this need to even take my time submitting my view for you to look at and approve? Even better yet not let the chemical companies do their testing on any of us!

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: orchid6128@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
deb mader	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha 'Aina. The right to protect and uphold the Public Trust Doctrine. If the federal and state regulatory agencies won't practice Aloha 'Aina, we as a county have the duty to do so. My family OPPOSES HB849. This bill is meant to protect the large multi-national corporations who conduct open air GMO and Chemical Experiments here, just down the street from us, under the false pretense of "agriculture" As a county, we have specific needs and issues facing us. We have the right to protect our health, our community, and our resources for future generations to come. Corporations have infiltrated virtually all aspects of government and regulatory agencies. The last bastion of democracy often lies in the county or town. This year, here on Maui, we passed the first ever successful citizens initiative. Some call it the "Maui Miracle" Our community united to protect ourselves- to stand up against MILLIONS and intense propaganda to protect our beloved community. A bill such as HB849 would destroy us- the PEOPLE- you are supposed to represent. Corporations are NOT people. We implore you to not allow this bill to proceed. Let's work on TRUE AG reform, where local farmers who malama the 'aina and produce REAL food that we eat locally can benefit. This bill is not meant to protect anyone but big business, biotech and those that hope to never have to answer to a concerned community. After all, we are getting sued by companies who spent a combined \$7 million to AVOID \$500k in environmental and health impact studies. After 2 decades we deserve some answers, hoping it's not too late. Please defend a county's right to home rule and join us in opposing HB849 Mahalo Deb Mader Creagh and Ohana

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dm1aloha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Maltz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly oppose!

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:40 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kim.markham@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Markham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose HB 849. I live on Molokai. Each of our islands has a unique and fragile ecosystem and each has its own culture. There is no one size fits all solution. By trying to make everyone conform to your rules, you only radicalize independent free- thinking individuals and groups.

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:05 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alisonmarlowuk@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alison Marlow	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill HB849 because the people and the county have the right to curtail agricultural practices that poison the environment, PERIOD. The law is in place to protect the people and the land. It is not for sale to the highest bidder or master manipulator nor for big ag chemical companies to abuse or control. Why is our right even allowed to be challenged. This bill should not even qualify to be given a hearing. PLEASE protect the county's vote for it affects EVERYONE!

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HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY RE: HB 849 RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

February 5, 2015
Room 312
8:30 AM

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee:

The Maui Chamber of Commerce strongly supports HB 849 which amends Hawaii's Right to Farm Act to ensure that counties cannot enact laws, ordinances, or resolutions that limit the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in agricultural practices.

Here at the Maui Chamber of Commerce, we believe in creating a strong economic environment that supports job growth while also protecting our environment and preserving our quality of life. We support the "triple bottom-line" view of sustainability: economy, environment and social well-being. Agriculture has always been and continues to be important to our state's economy (generating \$2.9 billion to the state's annual economy and directly and indirectly providing 42,000 jobs), our ability to sustain ourselves by growing local food, protecting our beautiful green and spaces; preserving our rural areas, and our quality of life. It is essential to support this industry.

The purpose of the Hawaii Right to Farm Act is to protect bona fide farming operations from urban encroachment. As our population continues to grow, existing farmers and ranchers are faced with an increased amount of pressure from homeowners living in an active farming community.

State and Federal government agencies typically have the resources, knowledge and expertise to oversee all aspects of Hawaii's agricultural industries. Counties have not demonstrated the capacity to regulate in these areas. Moreover, the idea that counties could create redundant and unnecessary regulatory regimes speaks volumes to inefficiencies and not a desire to promote and support farmers, ranchers and local crop production; rather a desire to shut down such operations - while simultaneously expounding on the benefits of food security and sustainability.

Agriculture is a long-term enterprise in which crops are planned years in advance. Farmers and ranchers cannot be expected to yield to the whim of activists and political winds manifested in a patchwork of federal, state and county regulations and restrictions.

Hawaii's farmers and ranchers need a stable, level playing field or they will be unable to compete in the marketplace.

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

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:28 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: karinmedigo@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin medigovich	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Absolutely we want the right to have our county decide on the laws regarding farming practices in our counties. We in Kauai have asked for protection from these chemical companies that call themselves agriculture companies. Their plowing, spraying and farming practices need to be regulated and the people near them need to have a say on how they practice agriculture. They must disclose what they are using at all times and reduce the tons of toxins they bring to the islands. Thank you for opposing this House Bill

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: permaculturejourney@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Menchetti	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Counties have the right to regulate agriculture and pesticide use. This right should be preserved and exercised for the protection of the aina and the people. Home rule is essential to keeping local power in local government, and protecting the health and safety of each county's people and lands. Do not pass this bill and give our rights away to private business.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wrmeyers@bright.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WILLIAM R MEYERS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nikipaneohoe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
niki miller	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill would remove long-standing rights of Hawaii's counties, and their citizens, to seek legislative remedies for specific needs of their counties. Niki Miller, Kaneohe

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jessicamitchell51@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Mitchell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Protect home rule

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: wkmlove@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mija johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lydibernal@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lydi Morgan Bernal	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly encourage you to oppose this bill. Please maintain the right of counties to protect their people and places from harm when the state has failed to do so, as is the case with detrimental agricultural operations that are currently causing harm in serious ways to people, including increased rates of cancer and death. By opposing this bill you stand with the people of Hawaii who demand that their rights and voice be respected, and that the way of Malama 'Aina can and will bring a bright future for us all. With Aloha

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: buggaluggs@bigpond.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Veronica Moss	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:50 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: eltonmow@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
elton mow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: the farmer has the right to grow product of their choice. Please do not make farmers criminals in one county but not in another.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: bjsreverie@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Muramaru	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this measure! Too many gentlemen farmers on ag lands. A sustainable Hawaii needs to allow farmers to farm using efficient agricultural practices. Look at the California egg crisis! Let's learn from the mistakes of other States and pass this bill!

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: trykauai@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
meredith murphy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: oppose oppose

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:10 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jdancer@kula.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John NAYLOR	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We the People need the Sun to Shine on All dealings w/ our elected officials especially when dealing w/ "profit b 4 People" mentality of corporations who by the way, are NOT people! Don't let them take away "Home Rule" no matter what the lobbyi\$t say! You saw the \$ above, didn't you?

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: k7omahony@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
karin omahony	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: hlbpalmer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hillary Palmer	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I oppose this HB849 because it is an attempt to take away control from the people who are the most impacted and hand it over to those who do not necessarily have our interest at heart. This is all about people and the land being abused by big business. The people and the Aina must come before corporate profits.

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Feb. 4, 2015

Opposition to HB849 (RELATING TO AGRICULTURE - Right to Farm; Counties)

Dear members of the House AGR Committee,

As Americans and residents of Hawaii we expect to be reasonably protected from possible dangers posed by businesses, farms and government operations. Activities such as pesticide application; use of toxic chemicals; and possible water, soil and/or air contamination occur during "modern farming". At the very least we deserve the right to know when these activities are occurring near our homes, schools, hospitals and businesses so that we can protect ourselves and our families if necessary.

But many Hawaii citizens believe that today

- 1) We are not adequately protected from these dangers despite federal and state laws (or the lack of them)
- 2) We are not always told the truth about the dangers we may face
- 3) Companies and farms continue to operate with impunity despite public outcries about the dangers they pose to the community

On the website Beyond Pesticides, I found a list of 33 states and at least 400 school districts that have written regulations to protect themselves and their families from harmful pesticide exposure and other possible farming hazards. Here is that list... [I will bring a hardcopy list to the hearing]. The actions by these many local organizations show that so-called "home rule" is alive and well on the Mainland!

Hawaii should not relinquish county governance unless and until we are assured that we and our families will be kept safe and informed by state and federal agencies, laws and regulations. Due to a lack of appropriate state and federal regulations, at this time we have no such assurance.

One other point I'd like to make: this Right to Farm bill seems to give "modern agriculture" (whatever THAT means) a free pass to practice anything as long as it is scientific or technical or new without regard to its purpose, efficacy or safety. Two examples from the past of re-thinking science: 1) We have backed away from the very technical and scientific atomic bomb because of the dangers it presented to individuals and the human race. 2) In the early 1900s the U.S. Forest Service thought it had to put out every forest fire; now we understand that controlled burns are a more effective way of dealing with forests, closer to the way it's done in Nature. We still await a verdict on the wisdom of "modern farming." Until proper long-term studies are designed and carried out-- independent of the for-profit companies who practice and promote it--we cannot really know if it is safe or ethical or whether it is leading us down a very technical but risky path. Carte blanche to all things scientific? I don't think that's what we want.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on HB849 so that citizens can continue to be properly informed and protect themselves locally as the need arises. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Pappas
98-1287 Akaaka St.
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

jpappas60@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:25 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dianehawaii@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Parker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Hawaii is a testing ground for chemical companies and their use of the islands has caused harm to the people, the land, the sea, and the air. These companies have a lot of power and influence and Hawaii is somewhat forgotten by the federal departments that regulate these bio-chemical companies and the land they use. We need to protect our communities and we need to make policies that fit our lifestyles and culture. We won't get that from the Federal Government or even the State Government. Hawaii's islands are so diversified and to try and have laws that cover all of Hawaii and all of the United States, just cannot work. If we give up this right, we will be heading toward a future that will only do more harm than good and that is not what we want. We want a safe and healthy environment to live in. And we want to support our local farmers and protect them and us from the chemical companies ruining our land.

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: alohawood@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Pontius	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not take away our right to govern our lives. We have made our wishes known. Do not sell out to Monsanto.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 6:40 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: County Government has a close ear to the community's needs and is responsive to environmental and health concerns. Removing the Counties right to participate in the democratic process would not be a good idea, for we need to grow sustainable and viable communities for future generations.

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regenerations botanical garden
P. O. Box 1137 Kilauea, HI 96754 USA
(808) 652-4118 voice (866) 216-5373 fax info@ribg.org

TESTIMONY OF PAUL MASSEY
BOARD PRESIDENT, REGENERATIONS INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDEN
ON
H.B. NO. 849, RELATING TO AGRICULTURE
RIGHT TO FARM; COUNTIES
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 5, 2015 8:30AM CONFERENCE ROOM 312

Aloha Chairsperson Tsuji, Vice Chairperson Onishi, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of H.B. No. 849, Relating to Agriculture. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as President of the Board of Regenerations International Botanical Garden, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based on Kaua`i.

Preserving the right of local municipalities to determine what kind of agricultural activities are permitted in the area under their jurisdiction is essential, given that some activities pose real environmental and human health consequences, such as poisoning from exposure to pesticide drift and groundwater contamination. HB 849 can only benefit agricultural producers whose activities disregard the health and wellness interests of the general public. Legislation on the County level in Hawai`i consistently affirms the importance of local food production, and reflects the wisdom of local communities to care for their agricultural resources. Please reject the passage of HB 849.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Paul Massey
President, Regenerations International Botanical Garden Board of Directors

onishi3 - Timothy

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: rfreitasjr@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Freitas Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill!!!

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:55 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: lipoamarket@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Rose	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Local Farmers need the freedom to Farm...corporate Farmers need local regulation at the county level...don't take away our Freedom!

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 5:02 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: fernrosenstiel@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Rosenstiel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not pass this bill. Please preserve home rule and county authority. Please choose people over profits and corporate interests. Mahalo!

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:36 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: mybizmaui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Schmidt	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill and feel that the people of Maui have spoken and the politicians who they elected should vote against this bill. Doesn't the US Constitution say, Of the People, For the People, and By the People. The people have voted to stop Monsanto until they can prove the GMO technology poses no harm to the public. We won the vote inspire of all Monsanto's lies and deception. Now don't reverse our decision by trying to revise the statutes. You will have a huge civil disobedience on your hands as the people will rise up non-violently to voice our disapproval if you support this legislation. More trickery I am afraid.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 4:54 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: kellensmith@placeshawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellen Smith	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill as it will take authority away from local government that may have problems with increased pesticide usage in nearby farms.

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 1:21 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: thesnovers@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ursula Snover	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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I OPPOSE HB849.

The increasingly popular slogan “Right to Farm” is nothing but a line of propaganda intended to protect the status quo of under- and unregulated agricultural practices that are adversely affecting the environment and communities surrounding such practices. The counties have a clear charter to PROTECT the environment and residents from harm. Attempting to mimic federal guidelines merely leaves the power in the hands of those large agrochemical firms that already control the revolving door between industry and federal regulatory positions. What we need now is more local control, not uniformity for the sake of so-called farm protections. Local residents should and must have a say in their counties as to what they are willing to be subjected to in terms of impacts to their health and the health of their natural resources. The issue at hand is not a “right to farm” but rather an environmental and public health and safety crisis that has failed to be addressed by federal and state level governance. I strongly oppose HB849 and am frankly disappointed to see repeated power grabs by state legislators in light of the historic mobilization of residents at the county level.

Makana

Testimony for Syngenta Hawaii

Mark Phillipson, Syngenta Hawaii, Corporate Affairs Lead

February 5, 2015

House Bill No. 849 – Relating to Agriculture

Aloha Chair Tsuji and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture,

I am Mark Phillipson, Corporate Affairs Lead for Syngenta Hawaii. My company supports House Bill 849.

This measure supports Hawaii farmers' right to farm, utilizing practices and technologies that are consistent with proven agricultural methods. Farmers conducting their operations within generally accepted agricultural and management practices, and in accordance with all state and federal laws, should not be declared a nuisance or have their right to farm revoked by county laws or courts.

Under the Hawaii Right to Farm Act, farmers must operate in a legal and reasonable manner to be eligible for the law's protection and must follow best management practices. This law has protected our local farmers and enabled them to make a living despite shrinking agriculture land, high costs, low produce sales, and opponents seeking to limit modern agriculture tools.

Hawaii's farmers are under constant attack by opponents of modern agriculture. Non-farmers who do not understand the resources and products that farmers use to protect their crops attempt to regulate crop protection tools in a manner that would limit farmers' abilities to fight plant diseases, insects and weeds. This reduces crop yields and adversely impacts not only farmers, but also all consumers in the state.

Technology has enabled farming to evolve into a more successful and sustainable practice. A strong agriculture industry creates local job opportunities and enhances food security for the people of Hawaii. We need this measure to ensure that Hawaii's agriculture remains an important part of our economy and an important source of food and crop development for our islands and the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 7:17 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: chasall@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Thomas Mort	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: TWIMC: People of earth, especially those of Hawaii. We are at a crossroads in human history. Genetic engineering, as in the production of genetically modified organisms or GMOs are finally, as of late, getting so much attention in the news media and local politics. However, the reason for this exposure is that people, like you and I, are getting educated and taking responsibility for our future and the future of our children. We chose to do something about it here in Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. The people have spoken and their wishes need to be upheld. In the last hundred years we have moved from an agrarian culture where we had a personal relationship with the land and the food we receive from it to the precarious position we find ourselves in today with Big Aggra. Companies like Dow, Pioneer, Syngenta and Monsanto have, to a large degree, taken away our connection to the land with their factory farms and their control of the seeds the farmers plant, to the extensive and increasing use of pesticides and herbicides we see today. Super weeds just led the EPA to approve Dow's Enlist Duo (aka Deadly Duo) which combines glyphosate and 2,4- D, a major component (about 50%) of Agent Orange, which maimed half a million Vietnamese. And remember to throw in an extra hundred million pounds of chemicals. Here in Hawaii, the growing season lasts year round and Big Agra has turned our beautiful islands into Ground Zero in the battle over control of our food supply. We are the test bed, a grand experiment, a cocktail of dangerous pesticides and man made foods and we cannot afford to sit idly by and let multinational corporations decide our destiny. We all want to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. At this moment in our history, we can choose to be free and willing participants in deciding our destiny and that of our children. How? Research the truth for yourself and then teach others. Eat fresh, whole, local, organic, non-processed foods. Shop farmers markets. Grow your own. Read labels. Study alternative media. Learn to look at the bigger picture. And most of all, remember to stand up for your rights as a human being! Aloha and Mahalo! Charles Thomas Mort "If people let the government decide what foods they eat and what medicines they take, their bodies will soon be in as sorry a state as are the souls of those who live under tyranny." — Thomas Jefferson

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To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dick@picturesofmaui.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Tilton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 7:06 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: jeffreyvesci@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff vesci	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 7:14 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: stacy@stacyVosberg.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stacy vosberg	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 12:16 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: angelavideotron@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Breene	Waihuena Farm	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives, I write in strong opposition to HB849 which blocks counties' home rule to regulate agricultural practices. The Federal Government has not done enough to protect us in this area nor has the State. We need the ability to regulate at the county level. Do not pass this chemical industry bill! Please oppose HB849. Mahalo

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 6:27 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: teri.kalele.molokai@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taryn Waros	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The people are speaking & you need to listen. Please stand up for the protection of our Kupuna & keiki - stop supporting Big Ag. Use common sense if nothing else - pouring chemicals into our land & water simply cannot be good for our health. Consider your Kuleana. Mahalo!

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 6:32 AM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: dawilkinson83@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM*

HB849

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Drew Wilkinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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onishi3 - Timothy

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:12 PM
To: AGRtestimony
Cc: tasia@maoorganicfarms.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB849 on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM

HB849

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for AGR on Feb 5, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tasia yamamura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe that home rule and a county's ability to ensure the safety of its people is important. I also think that this bill is aimed not at protecting the right for small scale, diversified farmers to continue their operations but for large multinational biotech companies to continue to experiment with their crops [that don't even contribute to our local economy or community food system]. I support the small farmers who are actually feeding our communities and strengthening our state's food security.

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