

GM 825

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

**APRIL 12, 2017
1:15 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 825
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CYNTHIA REZENTES,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2019**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 825, submitting for consideration and confirmation as a member on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, Cynthia Rezentes, a representative of a Citizen's Group. The Department would like to express its strong support for Ms. Rezentes' nomination.

Ms. Rezentes has diverse experience in the community serving in multiple roles throughout the State. She has leadership experience in various community groups such as Nanakuli-Maili Neighborhood Board, Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board, Oahu Resource Conservation and Development Council, Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa Council, Oahu Land Trust, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, Mohala I Ka Wai, and Kealahou West Oahu.

Ms. Rezentes' involvement in the local community will be a nice addition to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. She would serve as a good conduit on information sharing between the community and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Pesticide Branch on regulatory issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



April 3, 2017

Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment
Hawaii State Legislature 2017
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Aloha Senate Committee Chair on Agriculture and the Environment and Committee Members,

It is my very real pleasure to nominate Cynthia Rezentes to represent the community's position, established by statute, on the Governor's Advisory Committee on Pesticides. Cynthia is a life-long community organizer and representative. I have served with her on the Board of the Oahu Resources Conservation and Development Council and found her to be a critical thinker who can weigh all sides of a discussion and bring reason to the table. Her presence on the Advisory Committee would ensure that the focus on any items brought to that body would be given careful consideration.

Please concur with the Governor and approve Cynthia to serve a 4-year term on the Pesticide Advisory Committee.

Mahalo.

John McHugh, PhD
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April 10, 2017

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President

Re: GM825 -- Wednesday April 12, 2017 // 1:15pm Conference Room 224
Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Environment

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere and Committee Members,

As Executive Director of the Oahu Resource Conservation and Development Council I have had the pleasure of working with Cynthia Rezentes and gained an appreciation for her thoughtful and deliberate approach to addressing community issues.

Cynthia is passionate about community well-being and well-informed on issues related to Hawaii's agriculture and environment. These qualities would make her an excellent addition to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides and I encourage you to concur with Governor Ige and approve Cynthia Rezentes' nomination.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Jean Brokish

Sincerely,

Jean Brokish
jean.brokish@oahurcd.org

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 4:05 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: ashman.janet@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM825 on Apr 12, 2017 13:15PM*

GM825

Submitted on: 4/10/2017

Testimony for AEN on Apr 12, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 12:39 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: Phyllis.Shimabukuro-Geiser@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM825 on Apr 12, 2017 13:15PM

GM825

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for AEN on Apr 12, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support Cynthia Rezentes to the HDOA Pesticides Advisory Committee. Cynthia possesses the integrity and skill set that are required to serve on the advisory committee. Her education comprises of two science-based college degrees that makes her qualified for the decision making of the highly technical scientific issues that come before the Pesticides Advisory committee. Cynthia also understands the values and challenges of rural committees and agricultural districts. She knows the government processes at the county, state and federal levels. I respectfully request your favorable consideration and confirmation of Cynthia Rezentes, GM825 to the HDOA Pesticides Advisory committee. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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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Cynthia K.L. Rezendes

(808) 497-1432
Email: rezendesc@aol.com

April 3, 2017

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee

Aloha Senator Gabbard,

Please see responses to questions posed by your committee regarding my interest in serving on the Advisory Committee for Pesticides.

- 1. Why do you wish to be a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?** I am interested in serving on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides as this is a critical component of the future of agriculture in our State and also could have a significant impact on the health of our environment in our State.
- 2. How do you perceive the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?** The role of a member of this committee is to help determine whether certain pesticides have a place in the State Agriculture Industry and also to make sure that there are little to no impacts to our greater environment within the State. This includes: which chemicals are allowed in the State, review of their impacts as studied by various sources (industry, governmental, etc.), how the pesticides are used, and the health of our workers utilizing the pesticides, etc.
- 3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.** I am an engineer by training and thus have been schooled in analyzing situations and determining a balanced, best course of action to address that situation. In addition, I have previously served on this same committee during an intensive time of re-writing of the rules and had to learn of the various aspects of consideration regarding pesticides approval and usage. Finally, I currently sit on the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (under the Federal Advisory Commission Act - FACA). Exposure on this Council has given me insight into: farm worker protection standards, farm worker health issues, etc., and access to various aspects of the EPA for further information/education on various environmental issues.
- 4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?** To provide the oversight and guidance required for the program to make sure that the State of Hawai'i not only provides the best tools for our agriculture community/industry and also make sure that appropriate protections are in place for the health and well-being our of residents and the environment.
- 5. Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?** I do my research, am persistent and will work an issue to completion. In all situations calling for an opinion or guidance, I make sure that I learn and investigate the situation to the best of my ability. I do not like to make judgments with no basis. I will continue to ask questions until satisfied and understand the problem or issue. Lastly, I tend not to "quit" on an issue but will follow-through with completion. I believe all of these qualities will benefit the committee and all of these add to the betterment of the guidance provided by the Dept. of Agriculture on any Pesticide issue.
- 6. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the**

Advisory Committee on Pesticides? I have previously served on this same committee and bring with me the knowledge gained during those two terms served, including being a participant on the last major rule re-write of the Pesticides Rules.

7. **Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?** I do not see any specific potential of a conflict of interest arising by sitting on this committee. I do have many contacts and connections with both the agricultural industry, farmers, and environmentalists though. If there would be as conflict of interest, I would see if there might be a compromise with these constituents and if not then recuse myself from any decision-making on that specific issue/topic.

I hope these responses provide you a better insight into my commitment and abilities to be able to serve on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides and win your favorable consideration.

If there are further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above email address or phone number.

Thank you for your consideration,

Cynthia K.L. Rezentes