

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
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  
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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT**

**APRIL 13, 2018  
1:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 685  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JEFFREY KERMODE,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020**

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 685. This measure seeks to confirm Jeffrey Kermode to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Mr. Kermode has been serving on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides since 2012 and has proven to be an important voice from the local agricultural industry. His expertise ranges from his professional career with the Hawaii Commercial & Sugar Company to Maui Land & Pineapple Company. Mr. Kermode has a vast knowledge in environmental management and worked closely with local farmers to ensure environmental compliance while also promoting agricultural production. His experience is critical and a true benefit for the State of Hawaii as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 6:34:17 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darren Strand	Testifying for Maui Gold Pineapple Company	Support	No

Comments:



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

April 13, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**TESTIMONY ON GM 685**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JEFFREY KERMODE,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020.

Room 224  
1:15 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committee:

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

**The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports** the confirmation and appointment of Mr. Jeffrey Kermode to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

For a decade, Mr. Kermode has served in key environmental positions in both the sugar industry and the pineapple industry (at Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd.). In those positions, his responsibilities included oversight of all company environmental compliance activities, including compliance with pesticide regulations. In his current position, he continues to ensure that pesticide use, storage, and handling by diversified agriculture operations are carried out in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In this role, Mr. Kermode must not only keep abreast of pesticide regulatory developments at both the federal and state level, but also understand the practical implementation of these regulatory requirements.

Mr. Kermode was initially appointed to the Committee in 2012. During his time on the Committee, the Department of Agriculture initiated the first major revision to the Hawaii pesticide regulations (Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 4-66) since 2006. Mr. Kermode's experience in both the sugar and pineapple industries uniquely qualified him to evaluate the potential impact of those rules on farmers and to provide valuable input on the proposal. The resulting proposed rule revisions go beyond existing federal requirements while at the same time remain practicable for farmer compliance.

Mr. Kermode's hands-on experience in Hawaii agriculture, coupled with his demonstrated ability to assist the Committee in fulfilling its advisory role to the Department of Agriculture, makes him particularly qualified to continue to serve on the Committee. We respectfully request that you approve his appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Mr. Kermode.

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 9:46:17 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Warren Watanabe	Testifying for Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 3:00:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rick Volner Jr	Testifying for Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 10:14:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sean O'Keefe	Testifying for Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Please confirm Mr. Jeffrey Kermode to continue to serve on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

Jeff's experience in understanding and ensuring compliance with extensive and complex pesticide regulations in the pineapple industry, the sugar industry, and now in our ongoing diversified agriculture operations makes him an ideal candidate to continue to serve on the Committee.

Jeff played a key role on the Committee in advising the Department of Agriculture on its recent extensive proposed revisions to the Hawaii pesticide regulations. We believe strongly that the input from Jeff and the other Committee members on this issue has greatly benefited the Department and the State by resulting in a proposed rule that will be practical for farmers to comply with while still exceeding existing federal mandates. Jeff's appointment to another term on the Committee would continue to provide such benefits.

Thank you for considering our strong support for Jeff's appointment.

Sean M. O'Keefe

Director, Environmental Affairs - Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.

Chair, Environmental Stewardship Committee - Hawaii Farm Bureau

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 9:30:34 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

Mr. Kermode is an experienced environmental specialist who will be an asset to the committee.



**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 11:05:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Manfredi	Testifying for Hawaii Coffee Association	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 4:35:33 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Testifying for Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Yarrow Flower](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:04:34 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Dawn Bicoy](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:08:40 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Winifred Marcos](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:21:08 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Clyde Fukuyama](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:06:57 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 4:49:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeffrey Kermode	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 9:19:00 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**From:** [Alvin Tsuruda](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 7:58:43 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Blake Rabe](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:36:18 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [David Schell](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:18:07 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Derek Kurisu](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:59:46 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [GLENN TOYAMA](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:15:15 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Guy Ward](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:19:43 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [John Gordines](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:31:48 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Laila Jayyousi](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 8:53:28 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!



**From:** [Melvin Matsuda](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:58:07 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [melvin kunitake](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:07:06 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Mark Phillipson](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 6:39:27 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Stephanie Whalen](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 10:09:01 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**GM-685**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 11:27:12 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/13/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [paul Kaneshiro](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 12:22:20 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [Thomas Greenwell](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 11:48:24 AM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!

**From:** [David Bateman](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 1:20:52 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!



**From:** [Donna Woolley](#)  
**To:** [AEN Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT GM 685  
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 5:32:46 PM

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Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committee:

I SUPPORT GM 685, which nominates Jeffrey Kermode to serve on the Advisory of Committee on pesticides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo!



ALEXANDER & BALDWIN  
PARTNERS FOR HAWAII

April 10, 2018

Senator Mike Gabbard  
Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Nomination of Jeffrey Kermode to Serve on Advisory Committee on Pesticides (GM-685)

Dear Senator Gabbard:

Thank you for considering my nomination to serve on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. I look forward to assisting the Department of Agriculture in developing and revising its laws and regulations governing the use of pesticides.

As requested, I am responding to the questions posed in your e-mail letter of April 3, 2018.

***Why do you wish to be a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?***

As the Environmental Affairs' Specialist at an agricultural company in the state of Hawai'i, I feel it is important to be involved in the decision making process regarding pesticide regulation and use. I would like to assist the Department of Agriculture in ensuring the safe and lawful use of pesticides in Hawai'i.

***How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of an Advisory Committee on Pesticides member?***

I believe that each committee member as a pesticide user, researcher, or citizen / environmental advocate has a responsibility to ensure the concerns of the group they represent are considered by the committee when determining how best to advise the Department. A clear understanding of the operations they are seeking to regulate can greatly assist any regulatory agency in developing rules workable in the real world while at the same time meeting their objectives. As a representative of the pineapple industry, and of agriculture in general, my role is to ensure that the Department understands what will be required of farmers to comply with a proposed regulation and to assist in identifying ways to make compliance practicable. At the same time, all committee members have the overall responsibility of ensuring pesticide laws and regulations are protective of human health and the environment.

***Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, why do you believe you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of you skills, expertise or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.***

I was a member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides from 2012 to 2016 so am well aware of its role and the responsibilities that come with being a member. I worked in the environmental consulting sector in the state of Hawai'i for nine years before moving into the agricultural sector full-time as an Environmental Manager / Affairs' Specialist. My time as a consultant allowed me to see the detrimental effects of improper pesticide management. It is the agricultural company's responsibility to comply with regulations but it is also the



**ALEXANDER & BALDWIN**  
PARTNERS FOR HAWAII

responsibility of the regulatory agency to ensure those regulations can be practicably implemented by farmers. My past experiences motivate me to ensure pesticides are properly controlled. My previous work in both the pineapple and sugar industry gives me a good understanding of farming operations and how they can be affected by regulatory changes. The combination of these experiences allows me to assist the Department of Agriculture in developing its objective of protecting human health and the environment while still allowing farmers to utilize the tools they need to farm in a practical manner.

***What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?***

By participating on the committee, I hope to assist the Department of Agriculture in ensuring that its laws meet the objectives of protecting human health and the environment while making certain these laws are also practical for implementation by Hawaii's farmers.

***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 am devoted to protection of the environment at home and work, fair-minded when listening to opposing points of view and sensible. These qualities will allow me to actively participate in committee discussions so we may come to fair and equitable decisions for all involved parties.

***Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Advisory Committee on Pesticides?***

While employed with Maui Land and Pineapple Company (ML&P), I worked directly with the EPA and State Department of Agriculture to extend the sale/use/transfer of a pesticide that was stockpiled by ML&P in large quantities after the collapse of its pineapple business. This allowed ML&P to put the pesticide back into circulation so it could be used for its intended purpose by other certified users instead of being disposed of on the mainland as a hazardous waste. I believe my ability to come to common sense solutions like this will help the Advisory Committee form practical regulations which meet its goals while ensuring the viability of agriculture in our state.

***Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise as you serve in this capacity?***

I do not foresee any possible conflicts. I understand my role on the advisory committee as an advocate for both agriculture in Hawai'i and more generally, for the environment and human health.

Thank you for considering my nomination to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. I look forward to answering any questions your Committee may have regarding my confirmation.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey E. Kermode  
Environmental Affairs' Specialist  
Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.