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DOUGLAS S. CHIN
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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 WAYS & MEANS

FEBRUARY 13, 2018
10:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

SENATE BILL NO. 2126
RELATING TO THE PESTICIDE USE REVOLVING FUND

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2126. The purpose of this bill is to increase the amount that the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund can maintain in order to allow the Department to have the necessary funds to carry out its statutory mandate. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this bill.

The Pesticide Use Revolving Fund is comprised of funds collected by the Department from pesticide license fees, restricted use pesticide dealer license fees, and training and certification fees. The purpose of the revolving fund is to support the pesticide program's registration and licensing, certification and education, and compliance monitoring activities. The revolving fund may also be used to establish pesticide training workshops, educational programs, development of integrated pest management strategies, and other services to benefit the user of pesticides, such as the structural pest control industry, agricultural pest control industry, and consumer users of pesticides. This may include collection, disposal, and recycling of pesticide containers and other pesticide services.



Section 149A-13.5(e) currently allows the pesticide revolving fund to keep all unobligated, unencumbered, and unexpended funds remaining in the fund up to \$250,000. The proposed Act would increase this amount to \$1,000,000.

Increasing the cap from \$250,000 to allow the department to keep \$1,000,000 will increase the ability of the Department to conduct training and outreach. Pesticide outreach and education is critical in ensuring pesticides are not misused, as the misuse of pesticides is not only illegal, it may endanger the health of people and the environment. There has been an increase in demand for the Department to assist in the disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers. With this increase, the Department will be better able to conduct and coordinate these disposal services. These additional funds can also be used to supplement environmental studies, such as groundwater reviews and water sampling activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



LATE

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Board of Directors:

**Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) strongly supports:
SB2126**

Gary L. Hooser
President

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee,

Andrea N. Brower
Ikaika M. Hussey
Co-Vice Presidents

On behalf of the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action, I am testifying in strong support of SB2126 increasing the ceiling of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000.

Kim Coco Iwamoto
Treasurer

HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization. HAPA emerged out of the community-led movement on Kaua'i to enact greater regulations around pesticide use and disclosure, which led to the passage of Bill 2491. HAPA's fair and sustainable food systems work focuses on protecting Hawai'i's environment and the health of its residents from the potentially harmful pesticide impacts. HAPA engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work.

Bart E. Dame
Secretary

Given the concerns that residents across our state with have expressed around large pesticide users operating near schools, homes and other sensitive areas and management challenges of this issue faced by the SDOA, it is clear that additional resources are needed to properly staff and manage enforcement efforts.

Paul Achitoff
Malia K. Chun

Laura Harrelson
Katie McMillan
Walter Ritte Jr.

I strongly urge the committee to amend SB2126 as may be needed to allow funds from the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund to also be utilized by the Department of Health or other appropriate entity to conduct testing and evaluation centered on the health impacts of intensive pesticide use in impacted communities and adjacent natural habitats.

Karen Shishido
Leslie Malu Shizue Miki

The State/County sponsored Joint Fact Finding study group (JFFG) did an exhaustive 18 month review of existing health and pesticide data on Kauai and issued its report in 2016.

Kekaulike Prosper Tomich
Cade Watanabe

The data gathered during the JFFG process indicate that Kauai west side residents suffer from numerous health conditions at higher rates than residents living anywhere else on Kauai.



These health conditions/indicators include: Developmental Delay (3 to 8 year olds), ADHD, Easter Seals Enrollment (age 0 to 3), Infant Mortality, Mothers Pre-Existing Health Conditions, Cancer Mortality, Stroke Mortality, Admissions for Bacterial Pneumonia, COPD or Asthma (elderly), Dialysis Patients (per 1,000) and other disabilities.

These are all conditions or health indicators in which the incidence of occurrence by people living on the west side exceed all other Kauai communities.

This is why it is so important that the recommendations put forward by the State government funded JFFG report actually be funded and implemented by the State. The comprehensive and regular testing of soil, air and water is essential to determining the degree of health risks that are associated with the pesticide use and drift that we know is occurring.

SB2126 is an important step toward fulfilling the objectives and recommendations contained within the State sponsored Joint Fact Finding study group (JFFG) report and I strongly encourage this committee to pass this measure and other related measures today.

Best Regards,

Anne Frederick
Executive Director
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action

LATE

SB-2126

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:42:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Circe Carr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: