

To: Hawaii State Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Commerce,  
Consumer Protection and Health  
Hearing Date/Time: Mon., Apr. 2, 2018, 1:15 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 224  
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in support of S.C.R. 157  
and S.R. 117

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Baker and Members of the Committees,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii (“PPVNH”) writes in support of S.C.R. 157 and S.R. 117, which request the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health to conduct a joint study of the short- and long-term effects of chlorpyrifos on farmworkers.

PPVNH is dedicated to providing Hawaii’s people with high quality, affordable and confidential sexual and reproductive health care, education, and advocacy. To that end, we support legislative efforts that seek to help us understand the sexual and reproductive health impacts of chlorpyrifos in our communities and inform policies that seek to regulate pesticide exposure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Laurie Field  
Hawaii Legislative Director

**SR-117**

Submitted on: 3/30/2018 2:10:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/2/2018 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair; the Honorable Gil Riviere, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair; the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SCR157 / SR 117** relating to a study of the short-term and long-term effects of chlorpyrifos on farmworkers.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **SCR157 / SR 117** and support its passage.

**SCR157 / SR 117** is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requests the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health to jointly conduct a study of the short-term and long-term effects of chlorpyrifos on farmworkers, with special and focused attention on the work environment and control of the environment for pregnant or possibly pregnant farmworkers, including consideration of: (1) Information provided directly to the Department of Agriculture from its consultants and experts in the development and implementation of any chlorpyrifos farmworker studies; (2) The raw data used in the requested studies; (3) The availability of appropriate medical services for exposed workers; (4) The number of farmworkers who were known to be pregnant while employed as farmworkers and the record of the levels of exposure for the pregnant farm worker and any children; (5) Recommendations as to whether other state agencies should participate in this study and whether a new principal state department should be established with subject matter jurisdiction over environmental issues; and (6) Any other information relevant to the subject of the requested study.

The DPH Platform states that “We support community health initiatives that provide opportunities for the overall health of communities through strategic projects and programs focusing on increased interaction and physical activities among all age groups, as well as on better nutrition.” (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 378-380 (2016)).

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment is essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i.

We believe in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement. We support programs that encourage sustainable clean, efficient, creative and environmentally friendly modes of transportation, recycling and waste reduction.

The conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawaii's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations.

We support the protection of our 'aina against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our fresh water resources. (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 407-425 (2016)).

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources.

We know that climate change is a real threat to our islands and the world. We strongly urge our candidates and elected officials to take immediate action to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. This includes funding adaptation measures including coastal retreat, effective participation of indigenous peoples in climate change governance, and recognition that indigenous, local, and traditional ecological knowledge is key in climate change adaptation solutions.(Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 432-439 (2016)).

Given that **SCR157 / SR 117** requests the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health to jointly conduct a study of the short-term and long-term effects of chlorpyrifos on farmworkers, with special and focused attention on the work environment and control of the environment for pregnant or possibly pregnant farmworkers, including consideration of: (1) Information provided directly to the

Department of Agriculture from its consultants and experts in the development and implementation of any chlorpyrifos farmworker studies; (2) The raw data used in the requested studies; (3) The availability of appropriate medical services for exposed workers; (4) The number of farmworkers who were known to be pregnant while employed as farmworkers and the record of the levels of exposure for the pregnant farm worker and any children; (5) Recommendations as to whether other state agencies should participate in this study and whether a new principal state department should be established with subject matter jurisdiction over environmental issues; and (6) Any other information relevant to the subject of the requested study, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities

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