
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ITS CURRENT
USAGE AND PLANS FOR FUTURE USAGE OF GLYPHOSATE AND
GLYPHOSATE-CONTAINING HERBICIDES ON AND AROUND DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION PROPERTIES, INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

1 WHEREAS, glyphosate, a general use pesticide, is one of the
2 most common chemicals used for functional and aesthetic
3 landscaping purposes throughout the State; and
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5 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization's International
6 Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) evaluated the carcinogenic
7 risks of glyphosate, and IARC Monograph 112, published in 2017,
8 classified glyphosate as probably carcinogenic to humans,
9 stating that there is limited evidence in humans for the
10 carcinogenicity of glyphosate, and a positive association has
11 been observed for non-Hodgkin lymphoma; and
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13 WHEREAS, IARC Monograph 112 further stated that there is
14 sufficient evidence of the carcinogenicity of glyphosate in
15 experimental animals to conclude that a causal relationship has
16 been established between exposure to the agent and human cancer;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, in 2017, the State of California added glyphosate
20 to a list of chemicals recognized as carcinogens in the
21 California Labor Code and under California's Proposition 65,
22 also known as the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act
23 of 1986; and
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25 WHEREAS, in 2018, a California trial court upheld an award
26 of \$78.5 million in damages to a school groundskeeper after a
27 jury determined he contracted non-Hodgkin lymphoma through his
28 repeated exposure to the glyphosate-containing herbicides he
29 applied throughout the school district; and



1 WHEREAS, at least sixty-one cities, counties, and
2 communities across twenty-two states have moved to voluntarily
3 halt or restrict the usage of glyphosate, developed integrated
4 pest management policies restricting pesticide use, or banned
5 the use of glyphosate on public lands due to the possible
6 environmental and human health risks; and
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8 WHEREAS, the State's commitment to the health and safety of
9 schoolchildren is expressed in its passage of Act 45, Session
10 Laws of Hawaii 2018, which prohibits the use of restricted use
11 pesticides on or within one hundred feet of a school property
12 during normal school hours; and
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14 WHEREAS, based on currently available facts and
15 information, and as a precautionary measure to better understand
16 whether the policy concerning the use of glyphosate on or near
17 school grounds is warranted, further information is needed on
18 the current usage and applications and any existing departmental
19 policies regarding the purchase, use, handling, and storage of
20 glyphosate and glyphosate-containing herbicides within school
21 properties; now, therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
25 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is
26 requested to report its current usage, and plans for future
27 usage, of glyphosate and glyphosate-containing herbicides on and
28 around Department of Education properties, including school
29 grounds and playgrounds; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report detail the purchase,
32 usage, application, handling, and storage of glyphosate and
33 glyphosate-containing herbicides, including the volumes of
34 glyphosate and glyphosate-containing herbicides purchased on an
35 annual basis; amounts of glyphosate and glyphosate-containing
36 herbicides administered on and around Department of Education
37 properties by Department employees on an annual basis;
38 timetables of application, including frequency of application
39 and allowable days of the week and times of day for application;
40 and training requirements imposed on Department employees prior
41 to application to ensure correct use; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
2 report any existing departmental policies, and any plans to
3 phase out the use of glyphosate or glyphosate-containing
4 herbicides on Department properties, including phase-out
5 timetables, and potential or actual replacement herbicides; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
8 requested to submit its report containing its findings to the
9 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
10 the Regular Session of 2020; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
14 Education and the Assistant Superintendent of the Office of
15 School Facilities and Support Services.
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OFFERED BY:

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