

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

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**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 653**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, Gubernatorial Nominee, MELVIN TOKUDA, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 653. This measure seeks to confirm Melvin Tokuda to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides to fill the vacant Department of Health (DOH) seat. The Department of Agriculture strongly supports this measure.

Mr. Tokuda is currently on staff at the DOH as an Environmental Health Specialist in the Safe Drinking Water Branch. Mr. Tokuda is familiar with pesticides from his work for the Pesticides Branch for over 15 years. Mr. Tokuda's knowledge gained as a Pesticide Specialist over his tenure at the Department of Agriculture combined with his 14+ years with the Department of Health provides him with the experience to understand the complexities of the chemistries of the products, the pests, rules, statutes, and environmental impacts. A thorough understanding of many relevant positions is key to a fair process and advisory of important pesticide issues.

Mr. Tokuda provided service to the State's defense with the Hawaii Army National Guard over a period of 37 years and understands the guiding principles of public service. Mr. Tokuda would be a valuable asset to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides based on his long track record of experience, training, and knowledge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

