

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

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

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

February 7, 2022
1:00 PM
VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE BILL NO. 1030
RELATING TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES

Chairperson Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1030, relating to the Advisory Committee on Pesticides. The bill removes the statutory requirement for representatives of the pineapple and sugar industries and adds the statutory requirement for representatives of the coffee and diversified agriculture industries on the Advisory Committee on Pesticide.

The Department strongly supports the measure. It is well documented that the pineapple and sugar industries do not have the same economic or agricultural footprint that they did at the time when the Advisory Committee on Pesticides was established. There are few growers and people able to fill these seats on the committee. The Sugar and Pineapple Industry seats have had multiple vacancies throughout the past several years and have been the most difficult to fill. Coffee is the third most economically significant crop in Hawaii after seed corn and macadamia nuts, with hundreds of growers big and small throughout the islands. Diversified agriculture would allow for a greater selection of small and large growers of fruits, vegetables, and other commodities across the state. The large number of growers representing both the coffee and diversified agriculture industries would reflect a more up to date



representation of pesticide users. The Advisory Committee on Pesticides would benefit from these new seats contributing to the committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment

Monday, February 7th, 2022, 1p.m. Conference Room 224

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action Supports: SB1030

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committees,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) I am submitting testimony in support of SB1030, which would remove the statutory requirement for representatives of the pineapple and sugar industries and add the statutory requirement for representatives of the coffee and diversified agriculture industries on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.

HAPA supports the inclusion of representatives from the coffee and diversified agriculture sectors and removal of sugar and pineapple representatives on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides, given the changes in agricultural landscape over the past few decades.

As noted in the bill, the sugar and pineapple industries have largely departed from the islands and have been replaced by diversified agriculture across the board. At the time of the advisory committee's establishment, the sugar and pineapple industries were major stakeholders in the State's agricultural sector. In 1980, Hawaii was home to fourteen sugar and four pineapple plantations that covered more than 300,000 acres. In 2017, these two crops accounted for less than 5,000 acres. According to a 2017 U.S. Department of Agriculture report, diversified agriculture accounted for over \$84 million in production while the coffee industry provided the State over \$43 million.

The advisory committee on pesticides has the important role of assisting the DOA with the development of the rules associated with 149A and with advising the department related to pesticides. This role is important and needs to be properly represented by the farming community.

Please pass SB1030.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

SB-1030

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 7:04:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/7/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Fiona Fong Weingartner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB 1030. Get those statutory requirements for sugar and pineapple reps out of there! The goals of these industries, and the pesticide needs and wants to achieve these goals, are at odds with maintaining soil health and water quality. The goals of the current diversified ag industry, and the pesticide needs and wants, may be able to align with soil health and water quality. I have little knowledge of the coffee industry and unique pesticide challenges they face. Also, I'm not sure if this changes the case at all, but prioritizing sugar and pineapple reps in advisory committees is some colonizer b-llshit. Just saying. Mahalo for your consideration - Fiona in Honoka'a



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FEBRUARY 7, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON SB 1030
RELATING TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDES

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

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

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 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 recognizes the desire to update the membership of the advisory committee on pesticides, given that both the sugar and pineapple industry acreage and crop values have dropped significantly.

We understand that this measure would substitute those industry representatives with members of two other agricultural industries; coffee and diversified agriculture, that each account for a substantial farm production value provided to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments and thank you for your continued support of Hawaii's agricultural community.