

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2543

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2024

RE: S.B. No. 3315

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 3315 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PESTICIDES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to use consistent units of measurement in its summary to the public on the amounts of restricted use pesticides used; and
- (2) Establish a one-half mile buffer zone for pesticides around schools and state and county public parks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hui O Kuapa; Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management; Green Party of Hawai'i; We Are One, Inc.; Hawaii Chapter of Americans for Democratic Action Inc; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Beyond Pesticides; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Beyond Organic Consulting Inc.; Mohala Farms; Kanalani Ohana Farm; and seventy-three individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Sugarland Farms, Inc.; and one individual.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that pesticide exposure can cause significant harm to public health and the environment, especially restricted use pesticides, as deemed by the State. Your Committee further finds that many residents are especially concerned regarding the long-term health effects and potential negative impacts of pesticide drift on children, particularly due to the prevailing trade winds that blow throughout the State. According to testimony received by your Committee, leading academic institutions have published peer reviewed research, some funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, that clearly demonstrates that a half mile buffer zone is required to provide adequate health protection for children from pesticide exposure. This measure seeks to further ensure that data is collected regarding restricted use pesticide use is standardized and that highly sensitive areas, such as schools and public parks, are protected from the potential negative effects of long-term pesticide exposure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3315 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment,




MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 3315	Committee Referral: AEN, JDC/WAM	Date: 02-12-24		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)		X		
DECOITE, Lynn		X		
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton	X			
TOTAL	3	2		
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes