

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**DEAN M. MATSUKAWA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI  
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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**JANUARY 29, 2025  
1:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**SENATE BILL NO. 351  
RELATING TO PESTICIDES**

Chairperson Gabbard, Vice-Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 351 relating to pesticides. The bill requires quarterly rather than annual reporting of all use of restricted use pesticides (RUP). The bill also amends the contents of reports to include specific geospatial data and information and increased detail on the amount of restricted use pesticides used. The bill would also require the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for RUPs. The Department offers comments on this bill.

Requiring quarterly reports of RUP use for "Every user of restricted use pesticides..." will create an excessive burden on both the Department and all 1,109 certified applicators in the State. If every certified pesticide applicator must submit a quarterly report, the Department would have to allocate labor resources away from current priorities such as enforcement, education, and outreach, to track the status of report submissions quarterly. The Department currently sends official notices and initiates civil penalties to each certified applicator who does not submit a report every year. Between February and April of 2024, the Pesticides Branch sent 55 warning



notices and 18 notices of violation to certified applicators who did not submit reports for reporting year 2023.

The Pesticides Branch would require a significant increase in its current staff to meet the demands of processing the increased amount of reports. Currently, the Branch is allocated two (2) Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) IIIs for annual reporting, processing, and analysis. An increase of eight (8) EHS IIIs would be requested to assist with the influx of reporting and education required to inform the certified applicators of changes. Work related to enforcement would also be required; four (4) EHS IVs need to be added to the Case Preparation Section due to increased reporting requirements. At least one (1) supervisor at the EHS V level would be required to oversee the reporting program. An additional Deputy Attorney General (for a total of two (2) Deputy Attorney Generals) would also be requested for legal review. An estimate of payroll and fringe for these staff would equal approximately \$1,478,373 annually.

This bill would quickly create a backlog of work for our Education, Enforcement, and Case Preparation staff at current levels. The Department contacted California's Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR); data and information related to California's RUP Use Reports are backlogged and are only up to the 2022 reporting year due to similar reporting requirements.

If the Department is not provided with the staff requested, the Department will no longer be able to dedicate the resources to track every certified applicator. The Department will be forced to initiate workflow similar to the State of California where submissions and tracking will be identified during official inspections and consultative visits rather than full records review and enforcement. The current submission rate of Annual RUP Use Reports is 93.5%; if the Department does not continue current practices, the submission rate will decrease, providing less useful information.

Based on previous bills and requests by stakeholders, as of the 2023 reporting year, the Department has created spreadsheets containing formulas to allow for

consistent reporting of RUP use by both certified applicators and the Department. In the 2023 public report, the Department has updated its reporting units ([2023-RUP-Use-Report-updated.pdf](#)) to pounds of active ingredients and percentage of active ingredients. Requiring certified applicators to report specific information such as pounds of active ingredient applied and percentage of active ingredient(s) will create more confusion in reporting requirements and lead to an increase in non-substantive violations due to over-regulation and micro-specificity.

The requirement for inclusion of “detailed geospatial information” is vague and ambiguous. There are many different types of geospatial information and site-specific identifying information related to geographical information systems (GIS) including polygons, points, pins, and lines. The Department suggests identifying one type. Point bound geo-spatial data with a one-mile buffer may provide some level of accuracy but most companies who apply RUPs do not employ staff who are trained or educated to complete these types of highly technical mapping requirements. This puts smaller companies without the means to complete highly technical work at a regulatory disadvantage.

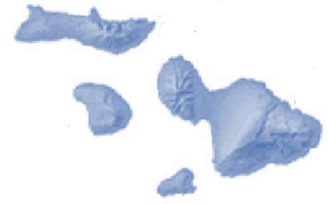
Outreach for this geospatial requirement will need to be prioritized, the Department requests an additional Education Section staff for each county for a total of four (4) additional EHS IV positions. The rough estimate of payroll and fringe for these staff would equal approximately \$414,540 annually.

The Department has already developed an online reporting tool for RUP reporting. The Department has not had stable staff to initiate education and roll-out of the tool due to “temporary” designation of the assigned position. The Department requests Environmental Health Specialist position numbers 123035 and 123036 be converted from temporary to full time permanent positions to ensure continuity of staff and projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**JOSIAH K. NISHITA**  
Managing Director



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**TO:** Representative Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Representative Herbert M. "Tim" Richards III, Vice Chair  
Committee on Agriculture and Environment

**FROM:** Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor  
Rogerene Arce, Director of Agriculture

**DATE:** January 28, 2025

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF SB351, RELATING TO PESTICIDES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The act requires quarterly rather than annual reporting of all use of restricted use pesticides. Amends the contents of reports to include specific geospatial data and information and increased detail on the amount of restricted use pesticides used. Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticides.

We **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Gives community access to data that is directly impacting their personal health and the wellness of the environment in a timely manner. Annual reporting is not enough.
2. Developing systems to improve pesticide use reporting in Hawai'i benefits our legislature to make better, more evidence-based decisions when it comes to public and environmental health and safety. Having access to this data will support the understanding of where the high potential drift areas are, where groundwater can/has been contaminated, and bringing overall awareness to where these toxic substances are being applied.
3. Currently there is an large amount of pesticide use across our Pae 'Āina, with over 300,000 lbs of restricted use pesticides reported back in 2019. This does not include general use pesticides and experimental pesticides being tested throughout Hawai'i, which has gone unreported for years now. Our communities across Hawai'i deserve to know the quantities of carcinogenic and mutagenic compounds they are being consistently exposed to on a consistent basis.

Mahalo for your consideration and support for this measure.



## Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

### Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) **Strongly Supports: SB351**

Wednesday, January 29th, 2024 1 p.m. Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

**HAPA strongly supports SB351** which requires quarterly rather than annual reporting of all use of restricted use pesticides. Amends the contents of reports to include specific geospatial data and information and increased detail on the amount of restricted use pesticides used. Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticides.

#### **Hawai'i's Current RUP Reporting Regime Does Not Support Public Health Assessment:**

Pesticide exposure can cause significant harm to public health and the environment. Restricted use pesticides have been deemed to have a high potential to cause harm to surrounding communities, farm workers, pollinators, the environment, and other crops.<sup>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Shelton J et al. Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Prenatal Residential Proximity to Agricultural Pesticides: The CHARGE Study. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2014 122(10) 1103-1109. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/1307044/>

<sup>2</sup> Shelton J and I Hertz-Picciotto. Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Agricultural Pesticide Exposures: Shelton and Hertz-Picciotto Respond. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2015. 123(4): A79–A80. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4384207/>

<sup>3</sup> Eskenazi B et al. Organophosphate Pesticide Exposure and Neurodevelopment in Young Mexican-American Children. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007. 115(5): 792–798. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1867968/>

<sup>4</sup> Marks AR et al. Organophosphate pesticide exposure and attention in young Mexican-American children: the CHAMACOS Study. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2010. 18:1768–1774. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21126939>

<sup>5</sup> Gonzalez-ALzaga B. A systematic review of neurodevelopmental effects of prenatal and postnatal organophosphate pesticide exposure. *Toxicol Lett.* 2014. 230(2):104-21 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24291036>

<sup>6</sup> Roberts EM, et al. Maternal residence near agricultural pesticide applications and autism spectrum disorders among children in the California Central Valley. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007. 115(10):1482-9. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17938740>

<sup>7</sup> Deziel NC et al. A Review of Nonoccupational Pathways for Pesticide Exposure in Women Living in Agricultural Areas. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2015. 123 (6) 515-524. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/1408273/>

<sup>8</sup> Simcox NJ Pesticides in household dust and soil: exposure pathways for children of agricultural families. *Environ Health Perspect.* 1995. 103:1126–1134. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1519258/>

<sup>9</sup> Waimea Community Dust Impacts, Preliminary Evaluation Report, Knox Hoversland Architects LTD. Jim A'Ana et al. v. Pioneer HiBred International, Inc. Feb 24, 2014.

<sup>10</sup> Stemp-Morlock G. Reproductive Health: Pesticides and Anencephaly *Environ Health Perspect.* 2007 Feb; 115(2): A78. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1817703/>

<sup>11</sup> Lacasaña M. Maternal and paternal occupational exposure to agricultural work and the risk of anencephaly. *Occup Environ Med.* 2006 Oct; 63(10): 649–656. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2078046/>

<sup>12</sup> Brender JD et al. Maternal Pesticide Exposure and Neural Tube Defects in Mexican Americans. *Annals of Epidemiology*, Dec 2009, 20(1):16-22 <http://europepmc.org/article/med/20006272>



As such, comprehensive pesticide use data is essential to accurately assess risks and ensure that communities are protected from adverse impacts. The US regulatory system often acts after an overwhelming amount of harm has occurred and been proven through long-term studies. **The current reporting regime in Hawai'i does provide geographically specific enough data to conduct credible public health studies.**

HAPA was founded in response to community members living near large agrochemical fields asking for the right to know what pesticides are being used adjacent to their homes, schools, waterways and other sensitive areas. After over a decade-long effort to provide residents with clear information on what they may be exposed to, the implementation of Act 45 still has not provided communities with that information.

### **The Need for More Geographic Specificity**

Publicly reported data on each RUP is summarized by island. Any resident who might have concerns about what is being used nearby has no way of gleaning more geographically specific information. This kind of reporting is essentially useless to someone who might be concerned about exposure to drift.

The reporting for RUP (Restricted Use Pesticide) use data in Hawai'i, has only recently started to become available, as of 2019. Because of poor reporting, it has taken considerable effort to make sense of the data, do the calculations, and format them into consistent metrics.

Currently, users are required to report the address, tax map key (tmk), and location of the application site but are not required to provide specific geospatial data that could provide comprehensive mapping of pesticide impacts. This poses difficulties to communities who live adjacent to large tracts of agricultural land. Because TMK sizes vary widely, application data in larger TMK's doesn't provide the level of specificity that communities need, or that can be used to conduct peer reviewed studies. California currently requires reporting within a square mile, which allows enough specificity for peer-reviewed epidemiological studies to be conducted to meaningfully assess risk and health impacts.

### **The Need for Consistent Units of Measurement**

HAPA worked with our partners to convert the 2019 data into a consistent unit of measurement (pounds), as data is reported in gallons, pounds and ounces, to GIS map the amounts used per TMK, pounds per acre, frequency of application, and combinations of pesticides. We have begun to analyze hotspot areas such as Central O'ahu-North Shore O'ahu for areas of concern and share that data out with those local communities. A recent presentation in Whitmore Village documented by 'Ōlelo can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/3gwVotl-Y1w>



Each RUP formulation requires a different calculation to convert usage data into a consistent unit of measurement. This is important to allow for an “apples to apples” comparison of RUP usage in each community and statewide. Having all of Hawaii’s RUP usage data converted pounds also allows for comparison with other states lbs/acre rates. For example, by converting all the 2019 data into pounds we could compare Hawaii’s fumigant usage with California and other major agriculture producing states. Hawai’i usage appears to be some of the highest in the nation.

California’s Department of Pesticide Regulation currently converts all RUP usage data into pounds for public reporting purposes. We recommend a system similar to California. HAPA contractors have already generated the needed formulas for data conversion and would be happy to share our research efforts with the Department of Agriculture.

### **Why Improved Data is Critical to Assessing Risk**

According to the state sponsored Joint Fact Finding Group study, Pesticide Use by Large Agribusinesses on Kaua’i (2016)<sup>13</sup>, “more information is needed about the time and place of applications along with greater oversight to ensure compliance on all Islands.

California appears to lead the nation in studies of chronic health effects and/or associations with pesticide use. They are able to reach this level of scientific inquiry because they require careful reporting of pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities.”<sup>14</sup> Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

When Hawai’i became the first state to ban chlorpyrifos, many of the studies conducted in California’s central valley provided long-term epidemiological research that proved the neurological harm to fetuses and children. It was due to this research that state regulators and ultimately the EPA banned this dangerous neurotoxin, but only after decades of harm had already occurred. This type of study and research was only possible due to more geographically specific data. Applicators need to record this information to ensure they are properly treating target areas and following the label. It is not a matter of whether this data is available, but rather whether the state is willing to require that it be publicly reported.

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<sup>13</sup> Pesticide Use By Large Agribusiness on Kaua’i: *Findings and Recommendations of the Joint Fact Finding Study Group*; <https://www.accord3.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/jff-kauai-final-report1.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> A Guide to Pesticide Regulation in California: <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/dprguide/chapter9.pdf>



**Creating an Online Reporting Tool Will Streamline Data Collection and Save Resources:**

The creation of an online portal for RUP users to upload their usage data and for public reporting would require an initial investment, but ultimately would save considerable time and resources once established. Formulas for converting data into a consistent format/unit of measurement could be automated, users could simply input use data into the portal and community members interested in local RUP usage could easily search for what is being used in their local community.

Please support SB351.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

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

Anne Frederick  
Executive Director





#### Officers

Kaipo Kekona  
State President

Anabella Bruch  
Vice-President

Maureen Datta  
Secretary

Reba Lopez  
Treasurer

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee,

#### Chapter Presidents

Clarence Baber  
Kohala, Hawai'i

Tony Vera  
East Hawai'i

Puna, Hawai'i

Andrea Drayer  
Ka'u, Hawai'i

Maureen Datta  
Kona, Hawai'i

The Hawaii Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFUU supports SB351.**

Significant improvements in the reporting and transparency of restricted use pesticides (RUPs) in Hawaii ensures that pesticide usage data remains current and relevant, allowing for more timely responses to any potential risks associated with their use. This increased frequency of reporting serves as a proactive measure, enhancing the ability of regulatory bodies, researchers, and the public to monitor and understand pesticide application trends and their impacts on our environment and communities.

In addition, the requirement for detailed geospatial data and information in these reports is a crucial advancement. Detailed mapping of pesticide use is essential for understanding and mitigating any unintended consequences on sensitive areas, such as schools, residential neighborhoods, and waterways. This level of detail will help support efforts to safeguard public health and preserve the natural resources that play such a vital role in Hawaii's agricultural and ecological well-being. The development of an online reporting tool by the Department of Agriculture, as mandated by this bill, is also a key component. This tool will streamline the reporting process, making it easier for farmers to comply with these requirements while providing accessible, transparent data for stakeholders.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kaipo Kekona, President HFUU/HFUF

Fawn Helekahi-Burns  
Hāna, Maui

Mason Scharer  
Haleakalā, Maui

Kaiea Medeiros  
Mauna Kahālāwai,  
Maui

Kaipo Kekona  
Lahaina, Maui

Kilia Avelino-Purdy  
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Negus Manna  
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India Clark  
North Shore, O'ahu

Christian Zuckerman  
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Ted Radovich  
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Vincent Kimura  
Honolulu, O'ahu

Natalie Urminska  
Kaua'i



# **HAWAII PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION**

Century Square – 1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003\*Honolulu, HI 96813-3304

Telephone (808) 533-6404 • Fax (808) 533-2739

January 29, 2025

Testimony To: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, CAE  
Executive Director

Subject: S.B. 351 – RELATING TO PESTICIDES.

Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, Executive Director of the Hawaii Pest Control Association and we are opposed to this bill.

The production of these reports takes a great deal of time, in fact DOA has put out a 16-page construction on how to download and input the data. We don't see the benefit of providing this information four times a year.

We also don't believe that we really are the targets for this legislation. The bill talks about people who live adjacent to large tracks of agricultural land. We come into the picture primarily because of the fumigation of houses where you see a tent surrounding the house. What's used, in those instances, are restricted used pesticides and therefore under this law must be reported. Just for information, there are about 20 companies in the state

that provide fumigation services. Some of them can do three or four fumigations per day, which means DOA will get inundated with the same information on the RUP, generally the same quantity, same EPA numbers, etc.

Again, we are not sure what the benefit is of us providing this information four times a year, but we think we should not be included in it.

Thank you.



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January 29, 2025

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**TESTIMONY ON SB 351  
RELATING TO PESTICIDES**

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference  
1:00 PM

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

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

**The Hawai'i Farm Bureau respectfully opposes SB 351**, that would require quarterly rather than annual reporting of restricted use pesticides (RUPs) use and would require the reports to include specific geospatial data and increased detail on RUPs used.

As active community members, our primary focus is on the safety and health of our families, our employees, and our communities as we produce the food and other products that residents and visitors need and enjoy. **We support evidence-based pesticide laws and regulations, along with appropriate enforcement and penalties for violations.**

**Quarterly Reporting**

The proposed shift to quarterly reporting offers no clear advantage to the public because current practices already ensure accountability:

- All RUP applications are recorded at the time of application, as mandated by existing regulations (e.g., HAR §4-66-62).
- These detailed records must be maintained and made available for inspection by authorized entities, such as HDOA.

**Existing Access to Records:**

- HDOA already has the authority to review these records at any time, ensuring oversight and compliance without the need for additional reporting frequency.
- The current requirement to retain records allows for historical data to be reviewed comprehensively.

### **Encourages Unnecessary Legal Exposure:**

- Requiring quarterly reporting with increased detail unnecessarily exposes local farmers to lawsuits or legal challenges from groups seeking to misuse this information, despite farmers adhering to existing laws and regulations.
- This could create a chilling effect on farm production, making it harder for local farmers to operate without fear of vandalism, threat of boycotts, and legal action, even when they comply fully with pesticide regulations.

### **Enhanced Reporting Details (Geospatial Data and Uniformity)**

The requirement to include detailed geospatial data is unreasonable because:

- Not all farmers have the tools or technology to record and provide precise geospatial data, such as GPS devices or GIS mapping systems.
- This imposes an unnecessary burden on farmers, many of whom are already complying with existing regulations using traditional methods of recordkeeping.

### **Current Recordkeeping Practices Already Address Location:**

- Under current federal and State laws and regulations, those who use RUPs are already required to record the specific location/field of application in their detailed logs. This ensures sufficient traceability without needing additional layers of complexity like geospatial data.

### **Lack of Clear Benefit:**

- The addition of geospatial data does not demonstrably improve public safety or environmental outcomes beyond what is already achieved by written location details in current records.

### **Online Reporting Tool**

- While the development of an online reporting tool may provide convenience for data submission, its implementation should not impose additional reporting burdens on farmers beyond what is already required. If the HDOA develops this tool, it must ensure that it simplifies, rather than complicates, compliance for farmers.

The proposed changes in SB 351 impose redundant and burdensome requirements on farmers without providing a clear, demonstrable benefit to public health or environmental safety. Current regulations already ensure detailed recordkeeping, accessibility of records to authorized entities, and oversight through HDOA. Increased reporting requirements and geospatial data collection risk exposing farmers to legal challenges and undue operational hurdles. Any amendments to pesticide regulations should prioritize practicality and fairness while maintaining accountability and transparency.

We ask our leaders across the state to please set aside unjustified legislation that discourages farming, and instead, support laws and policies that will strengthen agriculture's foundation in Hawai'i.

Thank you for your continued support of our local farmers who look forward to providing more of Hawai'i's agricultural needs.

I am testifying in strong support of SB351.

I am Dr. Lee Evslin. I am a board-certified pediatrician and a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. And served for 14 months on the state-sponsored Joint Fact Finding Task Force (JFF), studying pesticides on Kaua`i. I have lived and worked on Kaua`i since 1979 and am a former CEO of Kauai Medical Clinic and Wilcox Hospital.

In 2012, the American Academy of Pediatrics released a Policy Statement. The opening lines included the following:

**“pesticides are inherently toxic chemicals designed to kill or harm living organisms, and there is growing concern about the adverse health consequences of low-level exposures.”**

This well-referenced publication went on to discuss potential side effects from **low-level** exposures, which ranged from cancer to behavioral problems, developmental delay, reproductive disorders, and endocrine disorders. It suggested that pediatricians should become increasingly involved in pesticide issues, such as buffer zones, particularly around schools, and **proper reporting of what was being sprayed and where.** The authors also discussed how children, particularly unborn children, are particularly vulnerable to pesticides because of their rapidly developing brains, smaller surface areas, faster breathing rates, and hand-to-mouth activities.

California has led the nation in helping scientists understand the effects of pesticides, particularly regarding what is being sprayed where and the health consequences.

To keep our populations healthy, particularly as we increase food production, we need to know precisely what is being sprayed and where and when it was sprayed. Precise information requires geospatial mapping and quarterly reporting. Only then can we look for correlations between medical conditions and the spraying of certain chemicals.

We were the first state in the union to ban chlorpyrifos for agricultural use, and the science we used to make the case for the ban included the excellent reporting out of California.

When I served on the JFF, one of the chemical seed companies showed us the careful data collection they performed on what was being sprayed and where. I believe that the large companies have the data requested by this bill. It just needs to be reported.

**Please help us grow more food safely. We need to ensure that safety protocols are being followed for RUPs and that there is easy-to-access reporting about what is being sprayed and where.**

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 7:06:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keolani Kahale	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

It is important that we support this bill and take our communities health into consideration!



**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 11:00:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Klayton Kubo	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Support

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:51:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Dahlman	Testifying for CropLife America	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

CropLife America (CLA) is the national association representing manufacturers, formulators, and distributors of pesticides products used in agriculture production. We support and promote scientific-based policy in the regulation of pesticide products at both the state and federal level and advocate in the best interests of farmers. We oppose SB 351.

SB 351 would place a greater administrative burden on farmers with mandated monthly reports. Pesticides are a costly necessity of farming and a choice that farmers must make to protect their crops and livestock. But the cost of growing food to feed Hawaii is even greater and is made more difficult every day with unnecessary mandates.

We hope Hawaii lawmakers would focus on how to improve the viability and sustainability of agriculture in ways that farmers can embrace and support. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



253 Waiehu Beach Rd  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
808.244.0296

Wakon J. Childers, M.Ed.  
253 Waiehu Beach Rd.  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
1/27/2025

To: Hawaii State Legislature

Subject: Opposition to SB351

Dear Honorable Senate Agriculture Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 352. While I understand the intent behind the bill, the increased workload it would impose on businesses, combined with the potential risks associated with geospatial data collection, outweigh the benefits.

Currently, businesses are already fulfilling annual reporting requirements for restricted use pesticide applications. These reports provide sufficient data for the state to monitor and regulate pesticide use effectively. Transitioning to quarterly reporting would significantly increase administrative demands on businesses, requiring additional time, resources, and personnel to comply. This added burden is unnecessary given that the information is already being provided.

Moreover, requiring geospatial data for pesticide applications raises concerns about the misuse of such information. Publicly accessible or improperly secured geospatial data could inadvertently create detailed customer lists, which other organizations or competitors might exploit to poach jobs. This poses a threat to the competitiveness and privacy of local businesses.

Additionally, if quarterly reporting is implemented, it would necessitate the hiring of more government employees to review and process the increased volume of reports. This added expense would ultimately fall on taxpayers, further straining public resources without clear justification or benefit.

I urge you to reconsider the provisions of SB352 and instead focus on optimizing the existing annual reporting system to ensure both environmental safety and the continued success of Hawaii's businesses.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Respectfully,  
Wakon J. Childers, M.Ed.  
President, PCO 1251  
Bowman Termite & Pest Management, LLC; PCO 830



# HAWAII CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SB351 – With Comments  
Relating to Pesticides  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025  
Time: 1 PM  
Place: Conference Room 224

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

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association (HCIA) appreciates the opportunity to provide **comments on SB351**, which requires quarterly rather than annual reporting of all use of restricted use pesticides, amends the contents of reports to include specific geospatial data and information and increased detail on the amount of restricted use pesticides used, and requires the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticides.

HCIA understands the intent behind this measure but has concerns. While an online reporting tool would be beneficial, the rest of the bill is unnecessary and creates added administrative hurdles a farmer must clear all while trying to grow a marketable product and remain viable in a highly challenging business environment. The agricultural industry's costs will increase to comply with this proposed mandate, with small farming operations feeling the greatest impact.

Act 45 is a comprehensive law that requires all restricted use pesticide users to report annually to the Department of Agriculture. The report requires specific information including the address, tax map key (TMK), date of application, etc. This measure would, in addition to that, also require reports on the specific geospatial areas used within the TMK. We are concerned that with certain crops taking several months, or even years, before they are ready for harvest, a quarterly reporting requirement containing specific geospatial information would potentially expose farms to theft and vandalism.

We believe the current reporting requirements are sufficient to provide the data the state needs and this bill would just add undue administrative burden. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments expressing our concerns about this measure.

*The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization that promotes modern agriculture to help farmers and communities succeed. Through education, collaboration, and advocacy, we work to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply, support responsible farming practices, and build a healthy economy.*

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 12:16:03 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i we ask today that you will please pass SB351. Time is of the essence when it comes to pesticides and the damage they can do to our bodies. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai'i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

RUP data needs to include actual geospatial data that helps to better understand the actual location the pesticide was applied to. The way these pesticides work is they cannot be washed off the body, they begin cell division at one part per trillion. Cell division, is another word for cancer.

California appears to lead the nation in studies of chronic health effects and/or associations with pesticide use. They are able to reach this level of scientific inquiry because they require careful reporting of pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities. Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Green Party of Hawai'i

Susan RobertsEmery

Paauilo

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:57:16 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John R. Gordines	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is not evidence that they are using RUP pesticides. The increased buffer zone is not necessary considering residue and drift are not present. Annual reporting is sufficient.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 11:42:46 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Weiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pesticides are harmful to the lives of humans, wildlife and insects. Let's get this bill passed for more monitoring more often. Our environment will thank you.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair  
Addison Bulosan  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Fern Holland  
Arryl Kaneshiro



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188  
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349  
Email: [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov)

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

January 27, 2025

**TESTIMONY OF FERN HOLLAND  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
SB 351, RELATING TO PESTICIDES  
AND  
SB 352, RELATING TO PESTICIDES  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Wednesday, January 29, 2025  
1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 224  
Via Videoconference**

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of SB 351, Relating to Pesticides and SB 352, Relating to Pesticides. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

Regarding SB 351, for over a decade, I have advocated for improved reporting and data collection regarding pesticide use on Kaua'i and throughout Hawai'i. In 2019, the passage of Act 45 required reporting for Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs), marking an important first step. However, due to the current reporting requirements and processes, significant effort has been required to transcribe, standardize metrics, calculate, and analyze this data effectively. Accurate RUP data is essential for assessing human and environmental exposure and impacts. The collection and reporting of RUP application data need substantial reform to establish consistency, standardization, and usability for public and environmental health studies.

Years of working with RUP application data have underscored the critical need for improved reporting, particularly the inclusion of more precise location details. Geographic specificity is fundamental to conducting robust scientific assessments and epidemiological studies. Research proving the neurological harm of pesticides to fetuses and children relied on geographically detailed data, a factor currently lacking in Hawai'i's reporting system.

Enhanced reporting in Hawai'i would provide policymakers and public health experts with the data needed to make evidence-based decisions about pesticide use. The most critical components of this measure are the standardization of reporting units and the inclusion of geospatial information accurate to within one mile. These enhancements are crucial to ensuring that the data collected can be used effectively for scientific and policy purposes.

It remains imperative to gather detailed information about the time and location of RUP applications across Hawai'i and to establish stronger oversight



mechanisms to ensure compliance statewide. Pesticide exposure is well-documented to pose significant risks to public health, farm workers, pollinators, non-target crops, and the environment. RUPs, in particular, have a high potential for harm. I urge you to support robust data collection, scientific research, and detailed RUP reporting by advancing SB 351.

Regarding SB 352, I strongly support SB 352, which seeks to establish buffer zones around schools and parks to reduce children's exposure to RUPs. It is disheartening that 12 years after the Kaua'i County Council's efforts to create buffer zones—and after thousands of residents marched in support—we are still urging the State to take action to protect our children from the harmful effects of pesticide drift.

On the Mana Plain in west Kaua'i, there are an estimated 1,500 RUP applications annually, not including additional applications of General Use Pesticides. SB 352's proposed buffer zones would create a critical distance between areas frequented by children, such as schools and parks, and the spraying of highly toxic RUPs. This would significantly reduce potential exposure to pesticide drift.

The federal government has failed to protect communities and the environment from pesticide impacts due to weak precautionary policies, industry lobbying, and regulatory shortcomings. As a result, the State of Hawai'i must step up to fulfill this critical role. Since 2016, when "implied preemption" limited the counties' ability to address pesticide issues, it has become evident that this responsibility falls squarely on the State.

This measure is both basic and common sense: children deserve to be protected from exposure to highly toxic, carcinogenic, and mutagenic pesticides. The establishment of buffer zones would provide significant benefits, particularly for west Kaua'i communities, where children are at heightened risk of exposure due to their proximity to experimental genetically engineered field trials and heavy RUP use.

Please consider the following as you make your decision:

- Science is incessantly clear. Several epidemiological studies consistently reported increased risks between pesticide exposures and childhood leukemia, brain cancer, neuroblastoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Wilms' tumor, and Ewing's sarcoma. An extensive review of these studies was published in 1998.
- At least 15 case-control studies, 4 cohort studies, and 2 ecological studies have been published since this 1998 review, and 15 of these 21 studies reported statistically significant increased risks between either childhood pesticide exposure or parental occupational exposure and childhood cancer. Therefore, one can confidently state that there is at least some association between pesticide exposure and childhood cancer.
- Long-term chronic pesticide exposure while in school, can lead to cancer, neurological, and respiratory damage, among other medical conditions.
- California has already enacted similar legislation to protect farm workers and communities living near agricultural areas.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) found there to be a significantly increased health risk for children exposed to pesticides, and additional precautions must be taken to protect them from unintended exposure.

- Research is increasingly raising concerns about the combined effects of exposure to multiple pesticide “mixtures”. Combination effects are very common but have not been considered in the pesticide regulatory system or thoroughly in scientific study.
- Prenatal studies involving exposure to Organophosphate Pesticides (OP) connect pesticide exposure to neurological impairment and reduced intelligence quotient. Out of the womb, children with higher levels of OP pesticide breakdown products in their urine are more likely to have attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Greater urinary levels of OP breakdown products were associated with poorer performance on IQ, tests, processing speed, and verbal comprehension scores. Exposure of children to OP pesticides can also harm the lungs and exacerbate asthma symptoms.
- A wealth of data shows that pesticides drift much further than ½ mile beyond their target application due to wide, dust migration and volatilization.
- A University of California, Berkeley study documented drift up to 1.8 miles from treated fields.
- A University of California Davis study documented significantly increased rates of autism in children of mothers who lived up to 1-mile from treated fields while pregnant.
- The California Childhood Leukemia study found elevated concentrations of several pesticides in dust of homes up to ¾ of a mile from treated fields.

The data indicates a clear need for enhanced public health and environmental protections to safeguard our communities. While comprehensive protections for communities and sensitive environments are essential, establishing buffer zones around schools and parks is a practical and common-sense measure to mitigate children’s exposure to highly toxic RUPs. Buffer zones around schools and parks represent a critical first step in protecting Hawai‘i’s children from the dangers of pesticide drift. While a ½ mile buffer zone is a starting point, broader protections are necessary to address the full scope of public health and environmental risks.

I also recommend separating the need for improved data collection and reporting methodologies into its own measure (SB 351) and addressing buffer zones as a distinct issue under SB 352. This approach will allow for more focused and effective discussions on both topics, as protecting the health and safety of our keiki and communities must remain a top priority.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 351 and SB 352. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov).

Sincerely,



FERN HOLLAND  
Councilmember, Kaua‘i County Council

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 11:46:13 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Dinner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Protect our keieki and adults too.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 1:14:37 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emelia Briscoe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

RUP data needs to include actual geospatial data that helps to better understand the actual location the pesticide was applied to.

California appears to lead the nation in studies of chronic health effects and/or associations with pesticide use. They are able to reach this level of scientific inquiry because they require careful reporting of pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities. Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Emelia Briscoe, Honolulu

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 1:28:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laurie Makaneole	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We lived on Westside Kaua'i and have seen so much harm from pesticide use. My son graduated from Waimea high school 1999- 3 of his classmates died of cancer prior to graduation and then his best friend also from Waimea high school died at age 22 from Cancer. We have woken up during the night gagging and smelling chemicals in the air/ we live next to farmlands being sprayed during the night / very early am. My husband has been fighting cancer since 2020. We need protection from pesticide use on Kauai.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 1:16:58 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 2:17:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
emily gambino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Emily Gambino, Makawao



**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 2:34:26 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Troy Schacht	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 2:50:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 3:22:02 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!  
Nalani A from Lahaina

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 4:58:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin Faccenda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 9:11:06 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351. Mahalo for your consideration!

Stacey Alapai, Makawao, Maui

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 9:33:03 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Val Hertzog	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai'i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Val Hertzog, Kaua'i Teacher

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 10:36:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaiakahinalii Kaopua-Canonigo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

I am testifying today in support of SB351, and asking this committee to support this measure as well. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

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Please support SB351!

Mahalo nō,

Hina Ka‘ōpua-Canonigo, Mānoa

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 11:33:24 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Chiwa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Senator Gabbard, Vice Chair Senator Richards and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

Please support SB351 to improve Restricted Use Pesticide reporting.

Mahalo.

Jennifer Chiwa

Makiki



**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 1:50:13 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Kimo Pestana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More data is required. Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

Please support SB351.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 4:32:49 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kimdonghyeon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

kimdonghyeon,

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 5:15:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lela Kalama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.  
mahalo!

Lela Kalama, Kea'au, HI

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:20:38 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 6:52:05 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Irena Bliss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens. Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

RUP data needs to include actual geospatial data that helps to better understand the actual location the pesticide was applied to.

California appears to lead the nation in studies of chronic health effects and/or associations with pesticide use. They are able to reach this level of scientific inquiry because they require careful reporting of pesticide applications that specify what was sprayed, where, when, and in what quantities. Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

Please support SB351.

It is vital to continue to live the values of Aloha ‘Āina, Mālama ‘Āina and make decisions that support the well-being and thriving of all future generations on island.

Mahalo piha for your consideration!

Irena Bliss  
Ha‘ikū, Maui 96708

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:39:16 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debra M Javar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully SUPPORT sb351. It's extremely important that we ensure our keiki's are protected from harmful substances including pesticides.

Mahalo

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 6:13:08 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Kevin Kekoa Dolan-Ma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:48:00 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Shay Chan Hodges, Haiku, Maui



**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 12:29:38 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Isis Usborne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Isis Usborne  
Kapahulu Ave resident (96815)  
2026 JD Candidate at William S. Richardson School of Law

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 1:32:50 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Juvana Soliven	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB351

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 3:00:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ann Dorsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support SB351, which will improve reporting of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP) so the information is more accessible and useful.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

RUP data needs to include actual geospatial data that helps to better understand the actual location the pesticide was applied to.

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Thank you

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:00:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jodie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!  
Jodie Thayer

Wainiha

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:46:14 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keila Paahana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 10:52:37 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Ball	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Committee,*

I encourage you to please pass SB 351. As an educator and a parent, the health of our keiki is foremost on my mind when working with tomorrow's leaders. The enhanced reporting mandated by this bill will better ensure our children's health and well-being. Thank you for your time and consideration.

David Ball, Waialae-Kahala

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 7:34:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julia Marrack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Act 45 established requirements intended to address pesticide abuse in Hawaii, including requiring all users of restricted use pesticides to annually report on their use of restricted use pesticides to the department of agriculture. However, robust and meaningful analysis of environmental and public health impacts of pesticides is contingent on more comprehensive reporting.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Julia Marrack, Kamuela

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 9:18:27 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to respectfully as that you please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

Improved reporting in Hawaii can provide policymakers and public health experts with important data with which to make evidence based decisions about pesticide use.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI



**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 4:12:04 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lory Ono	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Lory Ono

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 5:36:43 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gabrielle Rochon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

Please pass SB351. While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351. Mahalo for your consideration!

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 6:22:28 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in strong support of SB351 that requires quarterly rather than annual reporting of all use of restricted use pesticides, and amends the contents of reports to include specific geospatial data and information and increased detail on the amount of restricted use pesticides used. This measure further requires the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool for restricted use pesticides.

Accurate and detailed data is essential to assess pesticide use and its impacts. Other states, like California, have demonstrated that improved pesticide reporting enables robust studies of health and environmental effects. Hawaii can and should do the same.

We must reduce the harm pesticides pose to communities, pollinators, and our environment. Please pass SB351.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 11:26:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leo Nahe Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

**Please pass SB351.** While Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, made steps to provide mandatory disclosure of Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) use in Hawai‘i, it has been difficult to access this information in a way that makes sense and is useful for the public and concerned citizens.

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Please support SB351. Na,

Leo Nahe

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 3:38:31 PM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hideki Kimukai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

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Please support SB351.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Hideki Kimukai, Mō‘ili‘ili

January 28, 2025

RE: Testimony in support of SB351

My name is Rosana Weldon and I am writing in support of SB351 to improve Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) reporting by requiring: 1) quarterly RUP reporting, 2) specific geospatial information, and 3) development and use of an online reporting tool for RUPs. Among all pesticides, RUPs are considered most likely to be associated with adverse effects in humans and the environment.

I am an Environmental Health Scientist and I currently hold the position of Associate Specialist Research Faculty at the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa in the Office of Public Health Studies. I am also the Director of the Red Hill Registry in the UH System Office of Strategic Health Initiatives. Prior to my employment at UH, I worked with researchers at the University of California (UC), Berkeley on a longitudinal birth cohort study of women exposed to pesticides in the Salinas Valley of California called the CHAMACOS (Center for the Health Assessment of Mothers and Children of Salinas) Study. This study has now followed mothers and children for approximately 20 years. For the past 30 years California has had extremely comprehensive and detailed pesticide use reporting (PUR) requirements that include the date and time of application, geographic location, field location, commodity/crop/site treated, acres or units treated, EPA pesticide registration number of the product applied, and the amount of product applied. In 2003 California launched the web-based California Pesticide Information Portal (CalPIP) database which made access to the pesticide use data easier for the public and researchers to utilize. This database contains pesticide use location information to a 1 square-mile area.

California's PUR data have been used as an exposure assessment tool to estimate human health effects of pesticides for decades and have helped support legislation that limits or bans some pesticide use. These PUR data have been validated by two exposure assessment studies that show high correlations between nearby ambient air concentrations and location of pesticide use as reported in the database. (Harnly et al, 2005 & Wofford et al, 2014) It is imperative to have reliable information on how much pesticide is used in a particular location to begin to understand the potential associations with human health. With these data, models can be developed that incorporate drift from wind or water runoff to assess risk to communities and determine whether certain communities may be more impacted than others. In addition, specific PUR data are useful for understanding the effects of pesticides on workers, endangered species, water quality, and air quality.

The California PUR data have been instrumental to the CHAMACOS study and other studies at UC Berkeley. In combination with data on residential proximity to fields, used as a proxy for pesticide exposure, several associations between pesticides and health effects have been determined. A brief summary of the findings of a sample of the literature, as reported by the original authors, as well as the citations are below:

- Gunier, Robert B., et al. "Prenatal residential proximity to agricultural pesticide use and IQ in 7-year-old children." *Environmental health perspectives* 125.5 (2017): 057002.
  - This study identified potential relationships between maternal residential proximity to agricultural use of neurotoxic pesticides (organophosphates, pyrethroids,

neonicotinoids, and manganese fungicides) and poorer neurodevelopment in children. <https://doi.org/10.1289/EHP504>

- Rull, Rudolph P., et al. "Residential proximity to agricultural pesticide applications and childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia." *Environmental research* 109.7 (2009): 891-899.
  - Specific pesticides may play a role in the etiology of childhood leukemia.
- Rowe, Christopher, et al. "Residential proximity to organophosphate and carbamate pesticide use during pregnancy, poverty during childhood, and cognitive functioning in 10-year-old children." *Environmental research* 150 (2016): 128-137.
  - Residential proximity to OP and carbamate pesticide use during pregnancy and both household- and neighborhood-level poverty during childhood were independently associated with poorer cognitive functioning in children at 10 years of age.
- Sagiv, Sharon K., et al. "Prenatal exposure to organophosphate pesticides and functional neuroimaging in adolescents living in proximity to pesticide application." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116.37 (2019): 18347-18356.
  - This first functional neuroimaging study of prenatal OP exposure suggests that pesticides may impact cortical brain activation, which could underlie previously reported OP-related associations with cognitive and behavioral function.
- Gemmill, Alison, et al. "Residential proximity to methyl bromide use and birth outcomes in an agricultural population in California." *Environmental health perspectives* 121.6 (2013): 737-743.
  - Residential proximity to methyl bromide use during the second trimester was associated with markers of restricted fetal growth in our study.

These types of studies are possible because of California's detailed information on pesticide use location and pesticide name/registration number. Hawaii's current pesticide use reporting system only requires applicators to report the pesticide use within a tax map key (TMK). The actual size of the TMK can vary widely depending on the size of the land parcel. This lack of specificity in the location of the pesticide used would lead to misclassification of exposure and muddle any potential studies attempting to use these data to assess health effects of pesticides in Hawaii's communities.

In conclusion, I fully support SB351 because cleaner data that is collected relatively near the time of application and contains more specific location information on RUP use will allow for better studies of health effects of RUPs in communities in Hawaii. In addition, an online reporting tool will ease the burden on applicators such that accurate data are more likely to be provided.

Sincerely,



Rosana Weldon, Ph.D., M.P.H.

**SB-351**

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 7:44:33 AM

Testimony for AEN on 1/29/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Long	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee,

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Please support SB351. Protecting our island keiki and residents should be of primary concern and an imperative.

Mahalo for your consideration!

James Longj

Naalehu, HI