

Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee on 2024-10-24 1:30 PM

Meeting Time: 10-24-24 13:30

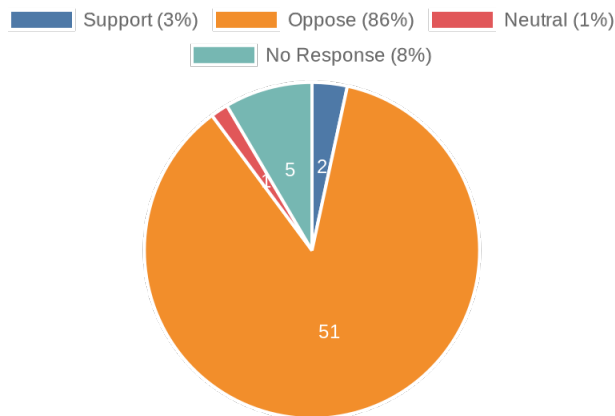
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee on 2024-10-24 1:30 PM	10-24-24 13:30	2	59	2	51	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee on 2024-10-24

1:30 PM

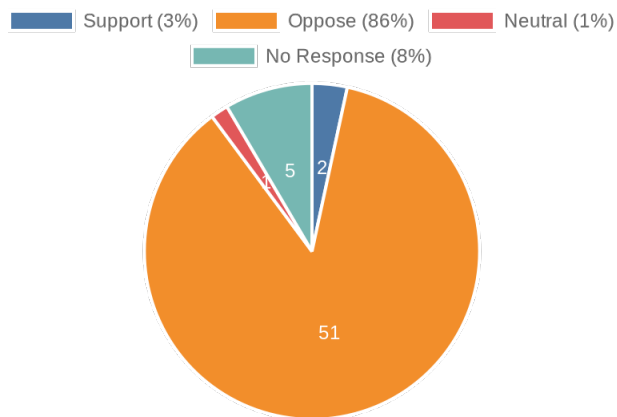
10-24-24 13:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	7	0	7	0
ADEPT-16 Bill 131 (2024) BILL 131 (2024), RELATING TO PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER USE ON COUNTY PROPERTY (ADEPT-16)	52	2	44	1

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment

Support (0%) Oppose (100%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (0%)



Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:54am 10-24-24

Aloha.

I am absolutely opposed to the use of pesticides world wide, beginning here, in my home.

We live on a small island with a fragile ecosystem and an especially sensitive water system. We have already suffered greatly from pesticide contamination from DDT and other chemicals in the Launiopoko Wells, to aquafer contamination from the use of other toxic pesticides including Glyphosate - aka Round Up. Round up is a banned chemical in many places and Maui must remain one of them. Further we should ban the use of Round Up and other pesticides on private property as well.

We also have many people who need work after the Fires have devastated our job situation. We could do two intelligent helpful things for Maui by BANNING PESTICIDES and hiring people to maintain our parks and roadways without them.

Mahalos for making your decision base on protecting the good health of our community and the long range good of our water supply, and employment for our community.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:09pm 10-23-24

I am deeply opposed to using pesticides on our aina and park lands. I was deeply poisoned in Lahaina in 1981 and it has ruined my health.

I am in strong opposition to Bill 131. Maui County Code, Chapter 2.50 already allows for pesticide and fertilizer use on County property. The problem appears to be that the Department of Parks & Rec wants to use stronger pesticides and fertilizers than we allow already. Stop poisoning our children, our wildlife and us.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 9:36am 10-23-24

Please do not poison Maui with more chemicals. I beg you to do what is Pono.
Ua Mau ke Ea o ka ___ina i ka Pono!!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:31am 10-23-24

Aloha kakahiaka kakou,

My name is Jackie Keefe and I am a Lahaina resident. I am writing to you today because I am unable to attend tomorrow's ADEPT Committee meeting.

I am in strong opposition to Bill 131.

Maui County Code, Chapter 2.50 already allows for pesticide and fertilizer use on County property. The problem appears to be that the Department of Parks & Rec wants to use stronger pesticides and fertilizers than we allow already!

Maui County Code 2.50.040 already allows for the use of some "minimum risk pesticides" and the pesticides and fertilizers listed as "allowed" on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances as listed in title 7 Code of Federal Regulations 205.601, 205.603, 205.605, and 205.606 as well as "otherwise prohibited pesticides for use in the control of mosquitoes, Animals or insects, such as fire ants or termites, that may cause damage to buildings and structures, and Invasive species whose introduction does, or is likely to, cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health."

This seems, to me, to be plenty of exemptions that we've written into this law.

At the last committee meeting that I attended regarding Bill 131, several of us spoke about the alternatives to harmful pesticides and fertilizers and how successful they have been. I see no reasonable explanation for why the County of Maui would grant further exemptions to these rules.

If the Parks Department wishes to use pesticides and fertilizers, they have a list to choose from.

Bill 131 grants specific exemptions for County property used for agricultural purposes and with grass surfaces that our keiki will play on! These are the last places that this sort of exemption should even be tried for!

The health and safety of our keiki and our 'aina is of significant importance, and as such Bill 131 should not move forward.

Mahalo for your time and efforts,
Jackie Keefe

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:28am 10-23-24

Please vote No on Bill 131. I work at Fun, 2,3 Preschool, across the street from Keokea Park. We regularly take the students on outings to this park, their health and well-being is paramount. If these chemicals are used to maintain the park, we would worry for the health of these young keiki, as well as the health of all the keiki, adults, and dogs who use this park every day. As a life long Maui resident who lives in Keokea, I strongly appose this Bill.

With kind regards,
Jenta Russell

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:30am 10-22-24

Please vote NO on Bill 131 this Thursday. It's the right thing to do. Obviously. The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because of the negligence of Parks and Recreation over the last three years to find alternative solutions. The golf course is located on oceanside property between Waiehu Beach Park and the environmentally sensitive Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge. Use of pesticides will certainly end up

in the wetlands and ocean.
This should be an easy one.

Barbara Barry

Location:

Submitted At: 5:52am 10-21-24

Aloha Chair Johnson, Vice-Chair Sinenci and Committee Members,

Once again, I submit testimony regarding Bill 131 and urge this Committee to not fall under the pressure of the Chemical/pesticide advocates to not only poison the turf, public parks, walkways and roadside areas that Maui County maintains but to destroy the beauty of our 'ina with the tell tale mark of death that glyphosate herbicides make.

I remember when the County would drive trucks along side our roads with a giant tank of round-up or its equivalent and blast everything and anything in its path with no regard to posting safety warnings that were required by law or over-spraying. I witnessed spraying in high winds which are common here in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

Those herbicides only killed the existing vegetation and within a short time, the weeds were back growing stronger than ever. Have you all heard about round-up resistant weeds?

Why are we exposing our Country workers to known carcinogens for the sake of reducing labor hours to maintain our parks, golf courses and other county areas not to mention our keiki, kupuna, pets and visitors? The cost of these chemicals are not reasonable and there the environmental costs of shipping, killing our pollinators and adding toxins to our oceans that is factored in NO where.

The dead sprayed weeds are also a fire hazard. The county's use of weed trimmers and other mechanical methods has been a huge and important improvement in maintaining the beauty of our country spaces the last few years since the ban on Bayer's and other Chemical Corporation broad spectrum herbicides was put in place. As a former professional commercial landscaper who turned to Organic management of the properties I maintained, beauty and protection of our water, soils, workers, humans animals and pollinators were all serious factors to consider when choosing how to proceed with chemicals in the landscape.

As many professionals have testified, restoring soil health is paramount to a sustainable managed and healthy turf.

Please don't go backwards and return to the unhealthy ways of the past. Too much depends on sinking back into a toxic, unsustainable environment in Maui County for our most vulnerable citizens and the 'ina.

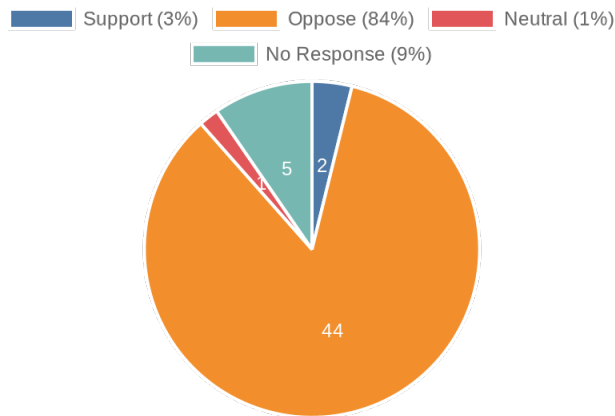
Remember Aloha 'ina?

Mahalo for staying strong,

Barbara Barry

Agenda Item: eComments for ADEPT-16 Bill 131 (2024) BILL 131 (2024), RELATING TO PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER USE ON COUNTY PROPERTY (ADEPT-16)

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:41pm 10-24-24

Our reefs and kama'aina shouldn't suffer because of the department's negligence. I strongly oppose the provision of bill 131

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:37am 10-24-24

Please explain to me why the county is going backwards in protecting our aina and ocean. Where is the reasoning and who brought this bill forward?

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:41am 10-24-24

Dear Council Members,

I am strongly opposed to the provisions of Bill 131 that will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to again use toxic pesticides and herbicides on county parks and the Waiehu Municipal Golf Course. These include glyphosate and triclogen, which have been shown by peer reviewed research to have toxic health effects and are potentially carcinogenic. Moreover, the repeated use of these chemicals will lead to resistance among targeted pests and weeds over time, leading to a need for a higher dosage or even ineffectiveness. The Department of Parks and Recreation needs to work harder to develop an integrated pest management and organic landscaping strategy, such as the one successfully used at Four Seasons Resort Lanai, Honokeana Cove and Royal Lahaina Resort & Bungalows, to treat these areas without the use of toxic pesticides and herbicides.

Thank you

Barry D. Solomon, Ph.D.
Waikapu 96793
bdsolomo@mtu.edu

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:27am 10-24-24

Dear ADEPT committee,

The Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves, and beaches for all people. We submit these comments on behalf of our Maui chapter, as well as our U.S. network of nearly 200 chapters and clubs, and more than 350,000 supporters, activists, and members in the United States.

We are opposed to Bill 131 (2024), relating to pesticide and fertilizer use on Maui County property (ADEPT-16) on the Committee's agenda for its October 24th meeting. Surfrider believes the expanded exclusions created by the Bill for (amending County Code Section 2.50.050), undermines the fundamental purpose of Ordinance 5232, which the Maui County Council unanimously adopted in 2021. Ordinance 5232 was a groundbreaking piece of legislation that the Council unanimously passed to safeguard the health and welfare of the Maui community and to conserve and protect Maui waterways and natural resources. In that decision to ban use of toxic pesticides and fertilizers on County land, Maui took a leadership role, demonstrating what real commitment to their constituents and environment looks like.

There is overwhelming scientific evidence in support of Ordinance 5232, demonstrating the harmful effects of the now prohibited pesticides and fertilizers on public health and our ecosystem. Nothing has changed in this regard; the harms are still readily apparent.

In particular, Surfrider is alarmed by the proposal to eliminate the requirement for the Waiehu municipal golf course. The Waiehu Golf course is on oceanside property between Waiehu Beach Park and the environmentally sensitive Waiehu Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge. Runoff with toxic pesticides and fertilizers used on the golf course ends up in our waterways and ocean, polluting and compromising fragile marine ecosystems, and threatening the health of recreational users.

Surfrider notes that importantly, the original ordinance and current County Code, section 2.50.060 specifically outlines a process to apply for 'waivers' to use prohibited pesticides or fertilizers. The waiver application requires that an agency seeking a waiver provide detailed information, including "how the public's health and safety is threatened" [by not using pesticide and fertilizer] (subsection (B)(7)), and under (B)(9), "[a]n explanation of how the application of otherwise prohibited substances will, to the greatest extent practical, minimize the impact of the application on the abutting properties, human health, and the environment." In utter disregard of this existing requirement, Maui County Parks and Recreation Department (Parks Department) has not only failed to go through the very process designed to approve exemptions but has failed to address one of the core aspects prompting a waiver. Bill 131 completely contravenes the spirit and purposes of Ordinance 5232 and existing County Code.

Ordinance 5232 set a clear schedule for compliance, moving away from toxic pesticides and fertilizers, allowing a generous three years for larger facilities including Waiehu Municipal Golf Course to comply including training and information with federal organic approved products. The Parks Department failed to use the allotted time to explore alternative options, and has failed to utilize critical available resources including Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC), which offered funding to do a test plot at the Waiehu golf course in 2023. There are organic products that can work with proper training, but the Parks Department has not adequately explored all these options and opportunities provided to them.

Bill 131 not only would exempt Wai`ehu Municipal Golf Course but also property subject to any State executive order that is not managed or controlled by the County, County agricultural parks, or County property used for agricultural purposes and County parks with grass playing surfaces, threatening to undermine the core purpose of the original ordinance.

We encourage you to vote No on Bill 131 and encourage the Parks Department to work with MNMRC Reef Friendly Landscaping program to find feasible alternative solutions. The public health of the Maui community and our fragile ecosystems should not pay the price because the Parks Department did not utilize their three years to find alternative solutions.

Sincerely,

Hanna Lilley
Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Islands Regional Manager

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:13am 10-24-24

Pesticides can be harmful, and further degrade our natural ecosystem.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 7:54am 10-24-24

I am a resident of Waikapu. I oppose this because surely there is a better way. We shouldn't pick the cheapest option but the safest and most sustainable. FYI I walk on Kanaha Beach once a week and a huge number of golf balls show up on the beach, which clearly have floated over from balls hit at the golf course. If golf balls can float all the way to Kanaha then there is no reason that pesticide runoff cannot also end up anywhere the currents go.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 7:52am 10-24-24

Aloha Gabe glad you are heading ADEPT, Sorry to see Alice is still supporting dangerous chemicals for profit over public health. As a multigenerational Kula farmer and descendant of the Scottish founders of the game of golf can assure you that there is no need to poison Maui citizens and future generations because the current parks department can't do what is easier and cheaper by embracing organic land management. Definitely against any use at Ag park as well as any other exemption from this proven organic management plan. Does Pat support this if so definitely disappointed as expect better. Strongly oppose any changes to bill 131. Mahalo

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:35pm 10-23-24

I am a Makawao resident, but more importantly a mother of a young children & a small dog that like to roll around in the grass & play outside. As a parent I worry that I'm exposing my helpless babies to cancer-causing chemicals. Please ban the use of pesticides & non-organic sprays on public use spaces like parks & ball fields & walking trails. Mahalo

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 6:49pm 10-23-24

I'm writing as a voter and resident of Makawao. Please vote no on Bill 131. It is quite surprising in this day in

age...when everyone is aiming get healthier and move in a sustainable direction without pesticides and chemicals...and then such a bill and idea is proposed to go against common sense and community health. WOW...I truly hope you think of your children and grandchildren and pets as well as the whole population of Maui, that would be subjected to this kind of uncaring way to treat the Aina and the Waters and the Air...It is unbleivable that this bill is even being considered. We the people of Maui oppose chemical pesticides and fertilizers in our public parks!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:49pm 10-23-24

I'm writing as a voter and resident of Makawao. Please vote no on Bill 131. It is quite surprising in this day in age...when everyone is aiming get healthier and move in a sustainable direction without pesticides and chemicals...and then such a bill and idea is proposed to go against common sense and community health. WOW...I truly hope you think of your children and grandchildren and pets as well as the whole population of Maui, that would be subjected to this kind of uncaring way to treat the Aina and the Waters and the Air...It is unbleivable that this bill is even being considered. We the people of Maui oppose chemical pesticides and fertilizers in our public parks!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:10pm 10-23-24

Aloha Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Sinenci and Committee Members,

I'm writing as a voter and resident of Makawao. Please vote no on Bill 131. It is vital to the health of people, the __ina and the wai to reduce pollutants. The regulations in place should be given a fair chance, and the Parks and Rec Department should be required to comply. Please don't take us backward. Mahalo.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:48pm 10-23-24

Stop the use of pesticides!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:07pm 10-23-24

Aloha council members, please vote against using pesticides in Maui County. You are all an important part of keeping residents, visitors, and especially children safe from harmful chemicals. We'd like to let you know that we voted you on the council to represent us and urge you to vote against using the proposed pesticides. The vote meeting is on Thursday, Oct 24th. (tomorrow) and we shall see who cares about Maui
Once you vote, we will know who to vote for in the upcoming elections.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:40am 10-23-24

These pesticides should be BANNED permanently!!!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:53am 10-23-24

The fact that this is even an option is disappointing. Do what is right and keep things clean and healthy.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:44am 10-23-24

It is absolutely unacceptable to put toxic chemicals right onto the ground where our children play. The parks are

already fine how they are! And at Waihee golf course right above the ocean. I can't believe this bill is even being considered. In no way do we the people of Maui consent to chemical pesticides and fertilizers in our public parks!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:59am 10-23-24

I oppose bill 131, I do not support the use of pesticides.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:58am 10-23-24

Terrible idea for our children

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:51am 10-23-24

Opposition on repeat We cannot support the use of pesticides and obviously at the closest proximity to our waters! The wai to the Kai needs to remain pure for the best health of our lands our bodies our waters. We must oppose bill 131. Now and always.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:28am 10-23-24

I urge you to reject Bill 131, which would permit the use of pesticides in our children's parks. The well-being of their future depends on us, and allowing this bill would be a grave disservice, further poisoning an already compromised environment.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:18pm 10-22-24

Please do not amend Bill 131 to permit the use of pesticides and fertilizers on county land. It's crucial to prioritize the health of our island's people, animals, and ecosystems. Please protect our community by keeping these harmful chemicals off our land.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:54pm 10-22-24

I oppose this bill. Pesticides and fertilizers are often highly toxic and cancer-causing. All three of my very young children and the children I teach at the school across the street enjoy this park: I would hate to see any of them negatively impacted health-wise by such a bill. Thank you.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:33pm 10-22-24

All county parks are heavily used by families, pets, senior walkers and more. Please consider safer and healthier methods.... For the health of all of us.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:26pm 10-22-24

Bill 131 should "NOT" be amended!!

Please do not put our precious keiki, pets, and loved ones at risk. There are other natural resources to consider. If taken the time to do so. We do not need to put our community at risk! Thank you!

Lily Diamond

Location:

Submitted At: 7:44pm 10-22-24

This amendment to Bill 131 is a threat to the health and wellbeing of our community. Allowing the use of pesticides and fertilizers on County parks, agricultural parks, and other proposed areas would immediately endanger the many humans, animals, and plant communities that now frequent and thrive in these spaces. Please reject this amendment.

Emma White

Location:

Submitted At: 7:37pm 10-22-24

Bill 131 should not be amended to allow pesticide and fertilizer use on County parks, agricultural parks, and other proposed areas that would immediately endanger the humans that use and work in these spaces.

Emma White

Location:

Submitted At: 7:37pm 10-22-24

Bill 131 should not be amended to allow pesticide and fertilizer use on County parks, agricultural parks, and other proposed areas that would immediately endanger the humans that use and work in these spaces.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:58pm 10-22-24

Bill 131 should not be amended to allow pesticide and fertilizer use on County parks, agricultural parks, and other proposed areas that would immediately endanger the many humans, animals, and plant communities that now frequent and thrive in these spaces. Please honor the people and the land by rejecting this amendment.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:29pm 10-22-24

Please do not use any of these toxic chemicals/pesticides on Maui County property!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:52pm 10-22-24

Please do NOT allow toxic, dangerous pesticides on county property.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:16pm 10-22-24

Please don't allow use of these toxic chemicals on Maui!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:28pm 10-22-24

I don't want pesticides and fertilizers public lands

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:18pm 10-22-24

Please no exemption to this bill. We don't need horrible and harmful pesticides in our golf courses, parks and playing fields.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:05pm 10-22-24

Bill 131 is a step in the wrong direction! We are a small island and every negative impact is amplified. Please vote NO.

Allan Almeida, Jr.

Location:

Submitted At: 12:11pm 10-22-24

Subject: Supporting Responsible Pesticide and Herbicide Use

To Mr. Gabe JOHNSON,

I am writing to express my support for the judicious and responsible use of pesticides and herbicides in maintaining our public green spaces. While I understand the concerns regarding potential environmental and health impacts, I believe that these substances, when used appropriately, play a vital role in preserving the health, beauty, and functionality of our parks, playing fields, and golf courses.

Here's why I believe responsible pesticide and herbicide use is important:

Weed and Pest Control: Pesticides and herbicides effectively control invasive weeds, harmful insects, and plant diseases that can damage turfgrass, reduce playability, and even pose safety hazards.

Maintaining Aesthetic Quality: Well-maintained green spaces enhance the beauty of our community, provide recreational opportunities, and contribute to our overall quality of life.

Protecting Property Values: Healthy and attractive public spaces can positively impact surrounding property values.

Economic Benefits: Well-maintained parks and recreational areas attract tourism and contribute to the local economy.

Responsible Use is Key:

I emphasize the importance of responsible use, which includes:

Integrated Pest Management (IPM): Implementing IPM strategies that prioritize prevention, monitoring, and the least toxic control methods.

Following Label Instructions: Adhering strictly to product label instructions regarding application rates, timing, and safety precautions.

Licensed Applicators: Ensuring that pesticide and herbicide applications are conducted by licensed professionals trained in safe and effective application techniques.

Protecting Water Resources: Implementing measures to minimize runoff and prevent contamination of water bodies.

Public Awareness: Communicating clearly with the public about pesticide and herbicide use, including posting notices and providing information about potential risks and precautions.

I believe that with proper education, training, and oversight, pesticides and herbicides can be valuable tools in maintaining healthy and vibrant public spaces while minimizing risks to human health and the environment.

If I may close with this...if you're interested in taking a hands-on approach to weed management, we encourage you to contact your council member to arrange "OPERATION PULL WEEDS" at Maui County Parks and the Waiehu Golf Course.

Sincerely,

Allan ALMEIDA
Paukukalo, Maui

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:16am 10-22-24

Aloha,

I was so happy and excited to hear that Maui County banned toxic pesticides. Finally some good news and common sense. Now I hear many county parks and golf courses have not even tried to stop using them and now want an exemption to keep using them? They have not used their time wisely to do the proper research, and

follow very important guidelines to help our Aina and clean up our misguided, toxic ways.

There have been countless lawsuits against certain pesticide companies, resulting in billions of dollars of payouts due to their cancer causing ingredients. Unfortunately, many people are so shortsighted that they do not see the long-term effects that these pesticides have on our land and our own bodies. My first cousin got non-Hodgkin's lymphoma after years of pesticide use.

What these folks at the golf course need is education on how to manage their land in a non toxic manner. Please have them contact Kim Konte at Non toxic Neighborhoods. She has spearheaded the nontoxic parks department in Irvine, California and they have hundreds of acres being managed organically with beautiful perfect grass. It just takes a little bit of knowledge to change their ways.

This is so very important for the land and all the people that use the land, including our children. Our children are sicker than ever, and there are many environmental factors contributing to that including toxic pesticides.

Is perfect grass worth the health of our people and our land? This exemption needs to be stopped. Please vote NO on Bill 131.

Mahalo,
Natalie N
Pukalani Maui

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:43am 10-22-24

Please do not allow any pesticides anywhere on Maui

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:52am 10-22-24

I VOTE NO on Bill 131

Maui Parks and Recreation had additional time to get larger facilities in compliance, including a three-year timeframe for Waiehu Municipal Golf Course.

The time was not used wisely to explore organic fertilizer options; this is not a valid reason for exemption to Bill 72.

The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because Parks and Recreation did not use the last three years to find alternative solutions.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:35am 10-22-24

We need you to vote no on 131 because we need clean land, water and air if we are to be healthy. Mahalo for you consideration, Harriet Witt, 43 Puu Koa Place, Haiku

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:51am 10-22-24

vote no on bill 131

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:15pm 10-21-24

I am against giving parks and golf courses on Maui more time to use pesticides and fertilizers. The 2021 ordinance was a big win for our community and the environment, by putting public health of the land and the community first. There's enough scientific evidence showing how dangerous these chemicals can be for our health and our ecosystems to continue using them.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:08pm 10-21-24

I am against using pesticides and fertilizer on county properties, especially in coastal areas. The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because Parks and Recreation did not use the last three years to find alternative solutions.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:35pm 10-21-24

Waiehu Golf Course has had three years to explore alternative ways to treat the course. Needing more time in this case is a shameful excuse to ask for a delay on such an important issue for our coastal environment. This bill was wisely voted in and the time frame was appropriate. A little bit of research will quickly show that there are more and more alternative pesticide options available. Time is up now. It is not fair to the surrounding community and to the island as a whole to allow these harmful practices to continue on grassy fields island wide. In the case of Waiehu, the course is situated along the ocean and the use of pesticides here has a direct impact on the shoreline biosphere - reefs, fish etc. Our oceans and coastlines are already under stress and allowing direct toxic run off here must stop. The benefits to a small group who haven't used their time wisely will result in a high price paid by the rest of the community who have already felt the effects of runoff with erosion and loss of fish caused by this poisoning of our nearshore waters. We have waited long enough. Thank you.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:01pm 10-21-24

Aloha Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Sinenci and Committee Members.

Once again I am testifying against Bill 131 to resume using pesticides and carcinogenic herbicides on Public turf, golf courses, parks, walkways and country roads.

Protecting these County public lands and the people, wildlife, pollinators, fresh water, ocean and the air we breathe from unnecessary toxic pesticides is our responsibility.

If the Parks Department needed to use a restricted pesticide for emergency use the last few years, why didn't they ask for a waiver? Why now?

Was it because of a bizarre petition from the County Golf Course?

My friend, Bill Greenleaf who has been a professional golfer and is regenerative farmer in Kula has visited the golf course and talked to golfers and inspected the course. He's testified that the golfers he spoke to were impressed with how beautiful the course was and how important it was to fully implement the organic turf management especially considering how close it is to the ocean.

What is the real cost to our the health of our parks department staff, keiki who play on the turf, pets who run on the grass and then lick their paws? What about our visitors? How is that being measured?

If you've ever sat through little league baseball games like I have at Maui Lani or at War Memorial and see the wind kicking up the dust, blowing in everyone's face you'd understand when I say that been nice not to have to worry about this dust being laced with chemicals the past few years. Please don't compromise the health of anyone by exposing them to

the various petrochemicals, heavy metals

and toxic fumes that comes with chemical turf management.

I support the full implementation of organic park management, mechanical methods for weed control including hand weeding. As the soil is being rejuvenated, healthy non invasive grasses will take over.

This is a process and will become easier as time goes on.

Please step back from Bill 131 and support the Parks Department to do their job.

We need our pollinators, we need the beauty of non scorched sides of the road. Killing weeds with Round-Up or stronger herbicides because the weeds are now herbicide resistant.

Just spraying roadside weeds without weed wacking them is a serious fire hazard, and they just grow back. It's not sustainable, healthy or necessary.

Please find the help the Parks Department

needs to do this so the last 3 years is not in vain.

Aloha 'ina, It's our kuliana ___

Mahalo for the chance to testify on this serious issue.

Ms. Barbara Barry

Organic Farmer,

Ha'ik_

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:22pm 10-21-24

I support the ban of pesticides on any and all public courses, even the private ones. I don't wanna be breathing in toxic chemicals and having it get onto my skin when I'm golfing they've had plenty of time to switch over to organic pesticides and they have obviously been irresponsible in doing so. It's no excuse to get any exemptions

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:19pm 10-21-24

Parks and Rec had 3 years for testing and waited until June? This isn't a valid cause for exemption.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:52pm 10-21-24

The parks and recreation had plenty of time to do their testing and did one trial close to the 3 year deadline. It seems them purposely failed to comply with the ordinance.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:43pm 10-21-24

Maui Parks and Recreation had additional time to get larger facilities in compliance, including a three-year timeframe for Waiehu Municipal Golf Course.

The time was not used wisely to explore organic fertilizer options; this is not a valid reason for exemption to Bill 72.

The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because Parks and Recreation did not use the last three years to find alternative solutions.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:41pm 10-21-24

As a resident of Waiehu that has children, I vehemently oppose the use of pesticides in areas where children are. It's a known fact that pesticides have been known to cause various forms of cancer, asthma as well as a litany of other health issues. There is absolutely no circumstance where this should be acceptable.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:41pm 10-21-24

Dear County of Maui,

My name is Cody Roberts. I'm a resident of Maui and I strongly oppose bill 131.

Maui Parks and Recreation has had additional time to get larger facilities in compliance, including a three-year timeframe for Waiehu Municipal Golf Course. The time was not used wisely to explore organic fertilizer options; this is not a valid reason for exemption to Bill 72. The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because Parks and Recreation did not use the last three years to find alternative solutions. Our islands have suffered enough environmental damage already, and we're not going to let your inactions to make positive changes allow you to continue poisoning our precious ecosystems.

Mahalo nui,

Cody Roberts

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:29pm 10-21-24

Aloha,

Please vote no on Bill 131. If passed, it will permit the use of toxic pesticides and fertilizers in parks and fields near the ocean. This could seriously harm the surrounding ecosystem. Parks and Rec had time to explore alternative options and failed to do so. As a community, we should not be willing to sacrifice public health or the health of our wetlands and reefs in favor of golf courses.

Mahalo for your consideration of this testimony.

-Pukalani Resident

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:41am 10-21-24

Aloha,

I strongly encourage you to VOTE NO on Bill 131 for the following reasons:

- Maui Parks and Recreation had additional time to get larger facilities in compliance, including a three-year timeframe for Waiehu Municipal Golf Course.
- The time was not used wisely to explore organic fertilizer options; this is not a valid reason for exemption to Bill 72.
- The health and wellbeing of our Maui community and fragile reef ecosystems should not pay the price because Parks and Recreation did not use the last three years to find alternative solutions.

Best regards,

Maureen Brock, PhD

Lahaina