

## **EACP Committee**

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**From:** Natalia Hussey-Burdick <n.hussey@capitol.hawaii.gov> on behalf of Rep. Tina Wildberger <repwildberger@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 04, 2020 5:00 PM  
**To:** EACP Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony for 09/08 @ 1:30pm (Pesticide Free Parks Bill)  
**Attachments:** 2020.09.04 Testimony Pesticide Free Parks.pdf

Aloha,

Please confirm receipt of Representative Wildberger's testimony (attached) supporting "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 2.50, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER USE ON COUNTY PROPERTY."

Mahalo nui,

*Natalia Hussey-Burdick*

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

September 04, 2020

Maui County Council Environmental,  
Agricultural and Cultural Preservation  
Committee

Honorable Shane M. Sinenci, Chair  
Honorable Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair

Re: Agenda item EACP-1: INTEGRATED PEST AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ON  
COUNTY PROPERTY

Honorable Kelly Takaya King  
Honorable Alice L. Lee  
Honorable Michael J. Molina  
Honorable Tamara Paltin  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Aloha Chair Sinenci and members of the Committee,

Thank you for scheduling this critically important bill for a hearing. Over the last few years, the vast majority of my constituents have emphasized to me how important it is for their family to breathe clean air, drink clean water, and enjoy a clean & healthy environment.

I appreciate that this bill requires annual reporting from each agency that uses pesticides or fertilizers on County property. For the sake of transparency and to facilitate future scientific studies, this minimum standard should be instituted statewide for all pesticide use on public and private property.

The people of Maui County have been very vocal about their support for transitioning away from using toxic chemicals altogether, especially in close proximity to our communities and shorelines. Here at home, chemical runoff is a major threat to our delicate nearshore ecosystem. Nationwide, neonicotinoids and pesticides are largely credited for bringing our invaluable insect pollinator populations to the brink of extinction.

A myriad of alternative technologies exist to manage pests in a less harmful way, from heat/steam, to neem oil, citric acid, and so much more. I commend and appreciate organizations like Beyond Pesticides which have offered their expertise to work collaboratively with county departments to find creative solutions that fit the needs for each particular location.

As the Maui Island representative for the Hawaii Invasive Species Committee (HISC), I recognize that the exemptions for controlling harmful invasive species allows HISC to continue their important work uninterrupted. I have faith that the hardworking invasive species teams will

**Office of Representative Tina Wildberger**

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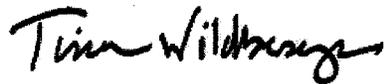
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exercise every safety precaution and do their best to minimize the use of toxic substances in the course of their duties.

With our oath-bound kuleana to protect our public trust resources in mind, I respectfully implore you to pass this excellent bill.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Wildberger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Representative Tina Wildberger  
House District 11 - South Maui  
Kīhei · Wailea · Mākena

**Office of Representative Tina Wildberger**

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