SB 531 SD2 amends Chapter 264, HRS to require state and county agencies to develop and implement an integrated vegetation management strategy to minimize the use of herbicides in public roadside maintenance.

Our statement on this measure is compiled from voluntarily submitted opinions of the listed reviewers, and does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Provisions of the original version of this measure and parts of SB 379 were consolidated and amended to arrive at the present language. In earlier discussions, fixed percentage rates of reduction of herbicide use were felt by agency officials to be inappropriately constraining, and hence were removed. Although our reviewers thought the previously proposed schedule of reduction was attainable, the present compromise language is acceptable, and this measure, as written, offers substantial benefits in the area of Integrated Vegetation Management implementation statewide. Hence, we concur with its intent.