HB 2411
RELATING TO PESTICIDES

House Committee on
Energy and Environmental Protection
January 22, 1992; 8:30 am, Room 1310

By
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HB 2411 would amend HRS 149A-31 to require a seven-day written notice to owners or occupants in a residential area prior to application of a pesticide.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We generally concur with the intent of this bill, given that it is intended to reduce pesticide exposure to people who are especially sensitive. However, enforcement responsibility should be specified prior to implementation of the measure.

We note that this bill refers to "residential areas", yet such areas are not defined. Additional language clarifying the meaning of "residential" (i.e., to include or not include mixed land use districts, rural areas, etc.) should be incorporated. Also, what is the rationale for not including other areas of human occupation, such as commercial areas?

Given that application of certain pesticides requires favorable weather conditions, it may be difficult to specify an exact date of use seven days in advance. However, the purposes of the bill may be served equally well by rewording to establish a window of opportunity within which the application will be made.