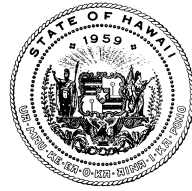


NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



GARY L. GILL  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

S.B. 3049, RELATING TO RADIATION LEVELS

Testimony of Gary L. Gill  
Acting Director of Health

February 07, 2014  
1:15 PM

1 **Department's Position:** The Department appreciates the intent of this bill, but it respectfully opposes  
2 the measure. This bill is unnecessary because the Department has already implemented additional  
3 radiation monitoring since March 11, 2011.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** Implementation of this measure may require additional funding for sampling and  
5 laboratory analysis at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per sample.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill proposes that the Department of Health implement a radiation  
7 monitoring pilot project that measures and monitors radiation levels in food, dairy products, rainwater,  
8 aquifers and drainage ditches in response to the March 11, 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster. It also  
9 proposes that the Department post periodic reports of those radiation levels and their significance on its  
10 website.

11 The Department has already established enhanced radiation surveillance around the islands in  
12 response to the Fukushima nuclear event. This includes continuous air sampling through the U.S.  
13 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Radnet system located in Honolulu; monthly (or as rain  
14 capture permits) precipitation sampling; quarterly milk and drinking water sampling; quarterly shoreline

*Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness*

1 surveillance on the Islands of Hawaii, Kauai, Maui and Oahu; and surveying of Japan Tsunami Marine  
2 Debris (JTMD), as needed. Trace amounts of radioactive material were detected in air, milk and  
3 precipitation samples for a few weeks following the Fukushima event, but were far below levels of  
4 public health concern. Levels have long since returned to normal values associated with background  
5 radiation. Reports of findings and advisories have been periodically posted to the Department's website  
6 since March 14, 2011, along with links for additional resources from various agencies.

7 With regard to food and seafood safety, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has no  
8 evidence that radionuclides from the Fukushima incident are present in the U.S. food supply at levels  
9 that would pose a public health concern. This is true for both FDA-regulated food products imported  
10 from Japan and U.S. domestic food products, including seafood caught off the coast of the United States.  
11 Consequently, FDA is not advising consumers to alter their consumption of specific foods imported  
12 from Japan or domestically produced foods, including seafood. FDA continues to closely monitor the  
13 situation at and around the Fukushima Dai-ichi facility, as it has since the start of the incident and will  
14 coordinate with other Federal and state agencies as necessary, standing ready to take action if needed, to  
15 ensure the safety of food in the U.S. marketplace.

16 Given the extent of monitoring, sampling and surveillance being performed by various entities,  
17 the Department believes this measure is unnecessary and should be deferred.

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

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/6/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steve Sakala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY FOR SB 3049 & HB 2600

House Health Committee Hearing, 8:45 AM, Feb 7, 2014 Rm 329  
Senate Health Committee Hearing, 1:15 PM, Feb 7, 2014, Rm 229

Introduction: Thank you Mr. Chairman and Committee Members. My name is Adrian Chang and I am here to testify in support of this Bill with some recommended word changes to clarify the scope of the monitoring program in order to do it efficiently and cost effectively.

As a retired Nuclear Engineer from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, I stress the importance of measuring for radioactive isotopes which could be the tell-tale sign of after effects from the Fukushima reactor accident. Fission products released, which have long half lives (e.g. Cesium 137 w/ 30+ years) could be very harmful to the general public when ingested, even in small amounts. To keep cost down, the Department of Health should work jointly with the Radiological Department of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, who has over 50 years of experience in this area.

Thank you again for introducing this Bill and for putting the health and safety of the people of Hawaii first, and for being the stewards of our environment.

Adrian Q.S. Chang  
216 Nomilo Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825  
Ph: 395-6198, Cell 227-9763

SB 3049 (Suggested Changes)

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1.

(a) The Department of Health shall develop and implement a pilot radiation monitoring program that shall identify and measure radioactive isotopes, and subsequent buildup, which could possibly result from the March 11, 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster. As a minimum, the program should include:

- (1) Monitoring various food items which have a known history of accumulating radioactive material such as, dairy products and commonly consumed marine life;
- (2) Monitoring specific environmental sites/conditions such as rainwater, aquifers, and drainage ditches.
- (3) Monitoring susceptible beach locations based on direction of ocean currents from Fukushima, Japan.
- (4) Post periodic reports on the department's website of those radiation levels and their significance to the State.

(b) The pilot project shall commence on July 1, 2014, and shall terminate on June 30, 2019.

(c) The department shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2019. The report shall include a recommendation on

whether the pilot project should be continued, modified, or terminated.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for equipment acquisition, staff training, and website development. When feasible, joint partnership with the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard should be established to help reduce equipment and staff training costs.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of health for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support. I agree with Jim Albertini's testimony, below. I an 33 yr. Hawai'i resident that not only wants a baseline for monitoring the possible effects from the Fukushima debacle, I am also very concerned about lack of present radiation monitoring for Pohakuloa. I was caught in a 'dust devil' at Pohakuloa in 2007 and saw the monitors rise with my own eyes, to 75 CPM - after watching the monitors stay 'at a normal' (5 to 20 CPM)for the previous hour and a half; until the dust devil blew over the area. The late Dr. Rosalee Bertell stated: one pinhead of depleted uranium radiation (in the dust)is enough to set off over one million 'alpha-bullets' per day, inside of your body, when ingested. FYI: This incident was the day that elected, and other officials came to Pohakuloa to celebrate a section of the highway being completed, with the late Senator, Daniel Inouye; they, too, were unknowingly caught in this DU dust. Also, the Waiki'i Homeowners Assoc., closest to Pohakuloa, had dust from the subdivision tested with a mass spectrometer, from a qualified lab - the results came back with trace amounts of DU in the dust, which were considered by some to be insignificant. The fact is, there should not have even been trace amounts detected. Zero. What this proves is, the DU dust IS migrating off of the Pohakuloa Military Training Range. I Support monitoring for possible radiation from Fukushima, and I also support monitoring for KNOWN radiation at Pohakuloa. Mahalo. Jim Albertini testimony - Comments: Aloha Senators, Our organization supports this bill. It will provide Hawaii residents with much needed information about possible effects from Fukushima. I would also suggest that included in this bill be a provision for DU soil and air testing to be done at Mauna Kea State Park, adjacent to Pohakuloa where citizen radiation monitors have detected above background radiation on several occasions. More thorough testing is needed. The park is located approximately 1 mile from where the military has confirmed DU spotting rounds have been fired. The air monitoring should be run for weeks with proper very fine filter size. In addition we need to know the wind conditions (strength and direction) 24 hours before the sample is taken – and during the sampling if we are sampling longer than 6 hours at a time. Also we need a report of the dust making activities at PTA going on at the time of sampling. The lab results, the dust activity log and wind results should ideally be gathered independently with each group's activity blinded to the results of the other groups until a final transparent analysis. The testing protocols should be created with community participation in a manner that is transparent and

will insure the confidence of the community. Thank you for your consideration in adding this aspect to the radiation testing of this bill. Jim Albertini, president of Malu 'Aina

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Courtney Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is essential! Please pass the bill! Mahalo!

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Fishman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is imperative that we monitor radiation levels affecting the Hawaiian Island chain and educate the public about ways to protect against exposure. E ola pono.

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Hallett	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I think this is a brilliant idea. Having periodic reading results posted on a website is a nice quiet way to share information with the public. Public health and safety should be number one with government. Studies are good for us to do in this area, especially because Japan is severely lacking in this area. Mahalo for allowing me to testify. Aloha, Lisa Hallett, Todd Andrews, Jessica Andrews

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
penny s	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
tj simms	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Kirbin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joe Conti	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I strongly support this bill and believe all residents should and would want to know about radiation levels in our community. Levels have doubled in the northern hemisphere since the 1950s with all the nuclear testing. The government can not keep us safe from many "threats" that exist. It is impossible to do, costs too much, and it is not the job of government to attempt. But monitoring radiation gives the people information about enviornmental status that they can then make decisions about. One million people died from Chernobyl over the years following the accident. I have heard many scientists say that Fukushima could be 10 time worse. Let's keep looking at the info! Mahalo!!! Joe Conti

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christopher Dean	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the monitoring of radiation coming from Fukushima. As a surfer, I spend a lot more time in the ocean than most people. I surf the north east shores quite regularly and those beaches are exposed to prevailing currents. In addition, I do frequent beach clean ups, personally hauling nearly a ton of debris of the coast last year. Some of that trash may have been radioactive, I don't know, but I wish I did.

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Bambara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
thad coffin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Please support this important bill for our children! We need to Know!

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel and Michelle Levey	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We agree with Jim Albertini's testimony (below), and strongly support monitoring throughout the Hawaiian Islands on a regular basis for possible radiation from Fukushima, and I also support monitoring for KNOWN radiation at Pohakuloa. Mahalo. This data collection should be easily accessible to the general public and public health standards should be set for radiation in water and food that is congruent with risks to human health. Dr. Joel and Michelle Levey Faculty, University of Minnesota Medical School, Residents, Kapaa, HI 96755 Jim Albertini testimony - Comments: Aloha Senators, Our organization supports this bill. It will provide Hawaii residents with much needed information about possible effects from Fukushima. I would also suggest that included in this bill be a provision for DU soil and air testing to be done at Mauna Kea State Park, adjacent to Pohakuloa where citizen radiation monitors have detected above background radiation on several occasions. More thorough testing is needed. The park is located approximately 1 mile from where the military has confirmed DU spotting rounds have been fired. The air monitoring should be run for weeks with proper very fine filter size. In addition we need to know the wind conditions (strength and direction) 24 hours before the sample is taken – and during the sampling if we are sampling longer than 6 hours at a time. Also we need a report of the dust making activities at PTA going on at the time of sampling. The lab results, the dust activity log and wind results should ideally be gathered independently with each group's activity blinded to the results of the other groups until a final transparent analysis. The testing protocols should be created with community participation in a manner that is transparent and will insure the confidence of the community. Thank you for your consideration in adding this aspect to the radiation testing of this bill. Jim Albertini, president of Malu 'Aina

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Lehmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: A comprehensive testing regime such as outlined in this bill is needed, prudent and called for.

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Koohan Paik	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: If we as a society choose to not do radioactivity testing in the wake of the Fukushima disaster, we would be just as irresponsible as people who are likely to be HIV-positive, but refuse to be tested for AIDS or HIV. This is important information we must know in order to make choices for our future.

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 7, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
denise woods	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is our responsibility to know and monitor this.

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**Cc:** [mendezj@hawaii.edu](mailto:mendezj@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB3049 on Feb 12, 2014 13:00PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 08, 2014 12:25:27 PM

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**SB3049**

Submitted on: 2/8/2014

Testimony for HTH/ENE on Feb 12, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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