



The House of Representatives  
STATE OF HAWAII

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **New Laws Emphasize Importance of Pesticide Warning and Labeling**

**WHAT:** Two new pesticide bills have passed the legislature and await approval by the Governor. Rep. Kirk Caldwell (Majority Leader) and Rep. Clift Tsuji (Agriculture Committee Chair) will explain the importance of these measures for public safety, especially after the recent event related to pesticide spraying at Kahuku High School. A supporter of the bills will be on hand to tell her personal story.

**WHEN:** **Monday, May 14, 2007 -- 10:30 a.m.**

**WHERE:** **State Capitol, 4<sup>th</sup> floor lanai (mauka side)**

**WHO:** **Clare Apana** was exposed to a toxic level of Malathion in 2001. Her neighbor's container of undiluted Malathion broke, and as result of the toxic fumes, Clare continues to suffer from brain injury and chemical sensitivity. Once a state championship gymnast and successful physical therapist, she was forced to move out of her house in Kaimuki and lost her business which was home-based. She continues to have psychological testing and PET scans which show areas of the brain that are still non-functioning. She is an advocate for greater public awareness on the use, storage, handling and disposal of pesticides and other toxic products.

**WHY:** In the past year, three schools were forced to close due to toxic fumes from nearby pesticide spraying, and children and teachers were taken to the hospital for headaches, nausea, vomiting, and eye irritation. (Waiiau Elementary on 3/1/06, Aina Haina Elementary on 4/14/06 and Kahuku High on 5/2/07)

**HB1646** – Requires that retailers that sell pesticides to the public must post warning signs with information on the proper handling, storage, and disposal of pesticides, as well as emergency telephone numbers in case of poisoning. (Introduced by Caldwell).

**HB1641** - Prohibits the sale, solicitation, or receipt of orders for restricted use pesticides to an unlicensed pest control applicator or employee of the applicator. (Introduced by Tsuji)

**Footnote:**

**ACT 071 (07)**

**HB1641 HD2 SD2**

**Signed: May 16, 2007**

**RELATING TO PESTICIDES.**

**Prohibits a pesticide dealer from selling restricted-use pesticides to an unlicensed pest control applicator.**