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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
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## Written Comments

### **HCR84 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE CURRENT LAWS, RULES, AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE REGARDING HIGH RISK PLANTS REQUIRING INTERVENTION**

Comments by the Legislative Reference Bureau  
Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director

Presented to the House Committees on Agriculture and Higher Education

Friday, March 11, 2011, 11:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 312

Chairs Tsuji and Nishimoto and Members of the Committees:

I am Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. The Bureau appreciates this opportunity to submit the following written comments on House Concurrent Resolution No. 84:

- (1) H.C.R. No. 84, among other things, directs the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources of the University of Hawaii to create a task force to convene a working group to evaluate the current laws, rules, and standards of practice regarding high risk plants requiring intervention.
- (2) The sixth "Resolved" clause of the measure directs the Legislative Reference Bureau to assist the task force by "submitting a report of the working group's findings and recommendations, including problems with existing statutes or administrative rules, and any proposed legislation" to the Legislature.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of the measure, but notes that, as the measure is presently drafted, the functions required of us appear to be manageable and we would undertake them to the best of our ability.

Honorable Clift Tsuji  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto  
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However, to minimize interference with our heaviest bill drafting period in the run-up to the start of session and to ensure that the report can be submitted to the Legislature in a timely manner, we respectfully request that the measure be amended to direct the task force to transmit a draft of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation to the Bureau no later than November 1, 2011. Also, if you decide to pass the resolution, we would be happy to assist you in drafting the committee report and any changes to the resolution.

Thank you again for allowing us to comment on this measure.