



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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### **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
March 24, 2011 at 2:00pm  
by  
Donald O. Straney  
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

**HCR 279/HR 246 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO SEEK GRANT MONEYS AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF INCORPORATING NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANT SPECIES IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo is fortunate to have a campus whose landscaping has been planned and well-tended. With a degree program in Agriculture, we maintain a broad range of plantings on campus to support student learning in this field. Likewise, our programs in Hawaiian Culture have established plantings representing the plants brought to the islands and used by the original Hawaiian settlers. 'Imiloa, our learning center, is dedicated to exploring the interface between science and culture, also has an extensive garden of labeled plants used traditionally in Hawaiian culture.

We are, therefore pleased to see a resolution that would have us increase the native natural plants on our campus. This is consistent with our current campus initiatives. It will enhance the utility of our campus to students and community alike, while also maintaining the beauty of the campus setting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.