SYLVIA LUKE Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

> **DEAN M. MATSUKAWA** Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025 10:00 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103, HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 99 URGING THE COUNTIES TO ADOPT LOCAL ZONING ORDINANCES TO REQUIRE OWNERS OF AGRICULTURAL-ZONED LANDS TO EXECUTE AND RECORD DECLARATIONS THAT ACKNOWLEDGE STATE AND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND USE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS AND PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.

Chair Kahaloa, Vice Chair Kusch and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 103 and House Resolution 99. These resolutions urge the counties to amend local zoning ordinances to require owners of agricultural-zoned lands to execute and record declarations that acknowledge State and county agricultural land use regulations and requirements and penalties for noncompliance. The counties are also encouraged to promote agricultural activities by providing information on farm apprenticeships and mentoring programs to agricultural landowners. The Department appreciates the intent of these resolutions to cause owners of agricultural land to acknowledge State and county agricultural land use laws, otherwise we defer to the counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these resolutions.

