Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Higher Education/Agriculture Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at 10:00am

> By Virginia Hinshaw, Chancellor and

> > Sylvia Yuen

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HR 127/HCR 145 - Urging the Development of a Coordinated Plan to Assist Home Gardeners with Forming Community-Based, Home Organic Produce Cooperatives

Chairmen Nishimoto and Tsuji, and members of the Committees on Higher Education and Agriculture: thank you for the opportunity to testify on HR 127/HCR 145, which urges the development of a coordinated plan to assist home gardeners with forming community-based, home organic produce cooperatives. I am Sylvia Yuen, Interim Dean and Director of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

This resolution requests CTAHR, with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to develop a coordinated plan for the purpose mentioned above. It further requests that a progress report on developing the plan be submitted to the 2012 Hawaii State Legislature.

CTAHR will be happy to comply with the legislative request as outlined in HR 127/HCR 145.