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Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

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

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 27 / HOUSE RESOLUTION 26

REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PETITION THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF PARITY BETWEEN HAWAII AND OTHER STATES AND TERRITORIES PERTAINING TO THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL GOODS.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 27 / HR 26 which requests the Hawai'i congressional delegation to petition the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to address the lack of parity between Hawai'i and other states and territories regarding the export of agricultural goods.

The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture acknowledges the concerns expressed in these resolutions and recognizes the importance of collaborating with the USDA to address the discrepancies in phyto-sanitation requirements facing Hawai'i. Our ultimate goal is to ensure parity with all other states in the union. We value Hawai'i's cut flowers, fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops as essential niche exports to the Continental U.S. and will continue to support their fair and equitable trade.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these resolutions.

