

STATE OF HAWAII

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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADOPT RULES CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW TO PROHIBIT THE MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY AND MEAT OR MEAT PRODUCT RETAILERS FROM USING GAS OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY TO EXTEND THE EXPIRATION DATE OF MEAT SOLD IN THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, the use of gas is not an accepted process to  
2           sanitize meat; and

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4           WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration  
5           prohibits the use of carbon monoxide gas on fresh meat; and

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7           WHEREAS, the State has the authority to adopt regulations  
8           on the preparation and sale of meat that is at least equal to  
9           those of the federal Food Safety and Inspection Service's  
10          federal inspection program; and

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12          WHEREAS, the use of gas can enhance the color of meat to  
13          make it look fresher than it would otherwise be; and

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15          WHEREAS, the enhanced color of meat can mislead the public  
16          into purchasing meat that is not fresh; and

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18          WHEREAS, according to some meat cutters and pursuant to  
19          some store policies, meat packaging companies are allowed to use  
20          gas on meat to extend the expiration date for meat cut at a  
21          store (which is four to five days) to over ten days; now,  
22          therefore,

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24          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
25          Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
26          Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
27          Agriculture is urged to adopt rules consistent with federal law  
28          to prohibit the meat packing industry and meat or meat product



1 retailers from using gas or other technology to extend the  
2 expiration date of meat sold in the State; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the  
6 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

