
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO DEVISE A PLAN WITHIN ONE YEAR TO TIMELY EXPEDITE
THE INTRODUCTION AND DELIVERY OF HAWAIIAN CACAO TO THE
MARKETPLACE.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has a propitious opportunity
2 to develop a new industry in the growing, cultivating,
3 processing, and shipping of Hawaii-grown cacao to the mainland
4 United States and the rest of the world; and

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6 WHEREAS, *theobroma cacao*, otherwise known as chocolate,
7 when translated into English means the "food of the gods," and
8 was first introduced to the Hawaiian islands in 1830; and

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10 WHEREAS, cacao has been used for centuries as medicine, and
11 Asia, in particular, has a growing demand for cacao and its
12 medicinal benefits; and

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14 WHEREAS, Hawaii is ideally located to capture and prosper
15 from the opportunities offered by a growing cacao market; and

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17 WHEREAS, in 2003, the Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers
18 organized a cacao chapter; and

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20 WHEREAS, in 2004, Dole Food Company rejuvenated its Oahu
21 cacao production; now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
25 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that a Cacao Task Force
26 be convened consisting of but not limited to representatives
27 from the following stakeholders of the cacao industry: the
28 Department of Agriculture, current cacao growers, Dole Food
29 Company, other farms, manufacturers, retailers, confectioners,
30 and any other relevant parties; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cacao Task Force develop a
2 plan to identify strategies to:

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4 (1) Accelerate the growth of the cacao industry;

5

6 (2) Increase the manufacture and supply of locally grown
7 cacao;

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9 (3) Promote its use and products; and

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11 (4) Identify any potential obstacles to the industry;

12

13 and

14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cacao Task Force will have
16 one year to complete the plan and expedite the production and
17 delivery of Hawaiian cacao to the market; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
21 Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Land
22 and Natural Resources, Department of Business, Economic
23 Development, and Tourism, Department of Labor and Industrial
24 Relations, Hawaii Chamber of Commerce, Mayor of the City and
25 County of Honolulu, and the Honolulu City Council.

