
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH A WORKING
GROUP TO EVALUATE HAWAII'S FOOD READINESS AND FOOD SECURITY
IN RESPONSE TO NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTERS.

1 WHEREAS, the state is over-reliant on outside sources for
2 food, importing 85 percent of our food; and
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4 WHEREAS, food self-sufficiency is one of the foundations of
5 a sustainable community; and
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7 WHEREAS, a disaster thousands of miles away can adversely
8 affect us here days later; and
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10 WHEREAS, it is essential for the State to be efficiently
11 organized and adequately funded to facilitate the production and
12 distribution of food during an emergency; and
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14 WHEREAS, an appropriate response requires pre-planning and
15 coordination across various federal, state, and county agencies,
16 as well as farmers and community groups; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
21 Agriculture (DOA) is requested to establish a working group to
22 evaluate the State of Hawaii's food readiness and food security
23 in response to natural or man-made disasters; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
26 to consist of 13 members as follows:
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- 28 (1) One member from the Civil Defense Division of the
29 Department of Defense (DOD);
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- 1 (2) One member representing the Hawaii Farm Bureau
2 Federation;
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4 (3) One member from each county department of public
5 works;
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7 (4) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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9 (5) The Director of Transportation, or the Director's
10 designee;
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12 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the
13 Chairperson's designee;
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15 (7) One representative from the United States Department
16 of Agriculture;
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18 (8) One representative from the Hawaii Tourism Authority
19 (HTA);
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21 (9) One member representing the Hawaii Food Industry
22 Association (HFIA); and
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24 (10) One member from the Hawaii food industry representing
25 both food distributors and food suppliers;
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27 and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
30 to hold meetings for the purpose of reporting to the Legislature
31 on the current state of affairs in Hawaii concerning food
32 readiness and food security and to make recommendations to:
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- 34 (1) Ensure the availability of food in the short-term
35 until supplies from the mainland arrive;
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37 (2) Keep enough refrigeration to maintain the food supply;
38 and
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40 (3) Provide adequate training to ensure that emergency
41 response is coordinated;
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43 and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOA is requested to provide
2 needed administrative, professional, technical, and clerical
3 support to the task force; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
6 to submit its findings and recommendations, including any
7 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 30 days
8 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of
12 Agriculture, Governor, Adjutant General, Director of Health,
13 Director of Transportation, Chairperson of the Board of
14 Agriculture, Executive Director of HTA, the Mayor of each county
15 of the state, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau
16 Federation, and President of HFIA.
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