
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TO "BUY LOCAL" AND TO IMPLEMENT AND DEVELOP FOOD WARE AND
FOOD WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
2 Health are two of the largest state departments in terms of
3 budget, personnel, and purchases; and
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5 WHEREAS, current law requires procurement preferences ("buy
6 local") to be given to "Hawaii products" under section
7 103D-1002, Hawaii Revised Statutes, defined under section
8 103D-1001, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as products that are mined,
9 excavated, produced, manufactured, raised, or grown in the State
10 where the input constitutes no less than twenty-five per cent of
11 the manufactured cost; and
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13 WHEREAS, section 3-120-4, Hawaii Administrative Rules,
14 exempts the procurement of certain goods and services from
15 chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including but not limited
16 to the purchase of fresh meats and produce; and
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18 WHEREAS, Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,
19 created the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force; and
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21 WHEREAS, Act 8 was based on the belief of the Legislature
22 that government is responsible not only for resolving daily and
23 annual issues, but also to assure the sustainability of the
24 State for generations to come (Auditor's Report, December 2005);
25 and
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27 WHEREAS, one of the major concerns of the Hawai'i 2050
28 Sustainability Task Force was the reality that Hawaii is an
29 island state and is dependent heavily on imports of literally
30 most things; and
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1 WHEREAS, to the extent that Hawaii may reduce its
2 dependence on purchases of out-of-state products through buying
3 from in-state suppliers, the more it benefits the local economy
4 and the more it reduces our dependence on shipping; and
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6 WHEREAS, one of the "Priority actions: Intermediate steps
7 for the year 2020" of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is to
8 "increase production and consumption of local foods and
9 products, particularly agriculture; and
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11 WHEREAS, local diversified agricultural produce includes
12 fruits and vegetables such as banana, longan, lychee, papaya,
13 pineapple, baby green lettuce, romaine lettuce, round onion,
14 taro, and tomato; local cattle farms produce beef and furnish
15 milk; and
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17 WHEREAS, "buy local" is critical to the long-term
18 sustainability of the food and manufacturing sectors of Hawaii's
19 economy; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
22 Health are major state government purchasers of food stuffs and
23 other goods and products that can be locally grown or produced
24 if the local demand is sufficient; and
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26 WHEREAS, furthermore, recycling has been a major theme of
27 the Legislature, and it is vital that the State create
28 partnerships with the private sector to help overcome any
29 obstacles, including the lack of commercial composting
30 facilities, in order to provide additional opportunities for the
31 purchase of locally produced products that are compostable; and
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33 WHEREAS, further effort is needed to encourage all food
34 waste from Hawaii food service facilities, including those
35 operated by the Department of Education, the Department of
36 Health, and hotels and fast food restaurants, to be recycled in
37 order to promote more jobs and a stronger sustainable future;
38 and
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40 WHEREAS, a similar recycling program has already been
41 successfully implemented in Massachusetts where both food waste
42 and polystyrene food trays are separated in cafeterias and sent
43 to their respective locations for recycling; and



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WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of Health play major roles, with their combined purchasing power, in helping Hawaii to meet the priority action of increasing production, particularly in agriculture, and consumption of local foods and products, and in the promotion of the recycling of food ware and food waste; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Education and the Department of Health are urged in their respective procurements to practice "buy local" to the maximum extent possible to encourage sustainability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and the Department of Health are encouraged to utilize compostable food ware products to promote a stronger sustainable future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education, Director of Health, and the Governor.

