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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN FOR INCREASING AID AND  
ASSISTANCE TO ORGANIC FARMERS.

1           WHEREAS, organic farming practices benefit human health and  
2 advance the preservation of environmental quality; and  
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4           WHEREAS, organic farming practices emphasize sustainability  
5 and enhance soil health; and  
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7           WHEREAS, organic farming promotes the practice of growing  
8 agricultural products without the use of toxic substances, such  
9 as pesticides and fertilizers; and  
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11           WHEREAS, organic farming is an important building block for  
12 maintaining and preserving the State's scenic and environmental  
13 resources; and  
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15           WHEREAS, organic farming is also an essential element in  
16 creating economic viability and preserving the quality of life  
17 in rural and agricultural communities; and  
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19           WHEREAS, organic farming has gained in popularity in the  
20 State; and  
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22           WHEREAS, local organic production, processing, and  
23 distribution cannot at this time meet the local demand for  
24 organic products; and  
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26           WHEREAS, the importation of organic products from the  
27 mainland and other countries can result in an increased number  
28 of invasive species in Hawaii; now, therefore,  
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30           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of

1 Agriculture is urged to develop a plan to increase aid and  
2 assistance to organic farmers; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
5 is urged to increase cooperation with the Hawaii Cooperative of  
6 Organic Farmers, the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and the  
7 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the  
8 University of Hawaii at Manoa; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
11 is urged to employ all resources available including resources  
12 available through the United States Department of Agriculture  
13 for organic farming in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of  
14 2008, P.L. 110-246; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
18 Board of Agriculture, the Dean of the College of Tropical  
19 Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at  
20 Manoa, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau  
21 Federation, and the President of the Board of Directors of the  
22 Hawaii Cooperative of Organic Farmers.