

MAR 12 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A POLICY TO INCLUDE
VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN MEAL OPTIONS IN ALL SCHOOL MENU PLANS.

1 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, American
2 Cancer Society, American Dietetic Association, American Heart
3 Association, and National Institutes of Health recommend that
4 there be greater emphasis in the American diet on fruits,
5 vegetables, and whole grains; and
6

7 WHEREAS, according to the Physicians Committee for
8 Responsible Medicine, individuals following healthy plant-based
9 diets are less likely to be overweight or obese, and they have a
10 reduced risk of diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, high
11 cholesterol, and some cancers; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine
14 has also found that vegetarian teens have higher intakes of
15 essential vitamins and minerals; and
16

17 WHEREAS, fruits and vegetables promote good health because
18 they contain fiber and essential nutrients, including vitamins
19 and minerals, are low in fat and calories, contain
20 phytochemicals that may provide additional protection to reduce
21 the risk of cancer and heart disease, and contain no
22 cholesterol; and
23

24 WHEREAS, all students should have access to nutritionally-
25 balanced diets to ensure they become healthy adults who do not
26 suffer from the effects of obesity and malnutrition; and
27

28 WHEREAS, a significant minority of Hawaii school children
29 identify themselves as vegetarian or vegan; and
30

31 WHEREAS, students who identify themselves as vegetarian or
32 vegan, or come from vegetarian or vegan families, desire access
33 to vegetarian and vegan meals in the public schools; and are at
34 a disadvantage if no vegetarian or vegan options are offered;
35 and



S.R. NO. 34

1 WHEREAS, some public schools are able to provide vegetarian
2 and vegan meals; now, therefore,

3
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
6 that the Board of Education is requested to develop a policy to
7 include vegetarian and vegan meal options in all school menu
8 plans; and

9
10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
11 requested to post on its website a list of schools that have
12 vegetarian and vegan menu options; and

13
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
16 Education and the Superintendent of Education.

17
18
19

OFFERED BY:

Mike Gattard

Michelle D. Adams

Carol Fukushima

John

David J. ...

Jim

Will Egan

Greg ...

Robert

