HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADOPT NUTRITIONAL GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE THE NUTRITIONAL QUALITY OF ALL SCHOOL MEALS.

WHEREAS, ensuring that the foods provided to children in schools are consistent with current dietary recommendations is an important national focus; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) hold the potential to provide nearly all the nation's schoolchildren with access to nutritious, low-cost meals to support their growth, development, and health; and

WHEREAS, the NSLP alone is available in ninety-nine per cent of U.S. public schools and in eighty-three per cent of all private and public schools and in fiscal year 2007, the participating schools served about 5.1 billion lunches at a federal cost of approximately \$8.7 billion; and

WHEREAS, in <u>School Meals: Building Blocks for Healthy Children</u>, the Institute of Medicine provides recommendations to revise the nutrition- and food-related standards and requirements for the NSLP and the SBP; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Institute of Medicine is the development of a set of well-conceived, practical, and economical recommendations for standards that reflect current nutritional science, increase the availability of key food groups as appropriate, and allow these two meal programs to better meet the nutritional needs of children, foster healthy eating habits, and safeguard children's health; and

WHEREAS, Team Nutrition is an initiative of the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service to support the Child Nutrition Programs through training and

technical assistance for foodservice, nutrition education for children and their caregivers, and school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Team Nutrition is to improve children's lifelong eating and physical activity habits; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Congressional Delegation is requested to urge the United States Department of Agriculture to adopt the Institute of Medicine nutritional guidelines and to accelerate the Nutrition Education and Training Program and Team Nutrition initiative to improve the nutritional quality of all school meals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.

OFFERED BY:

