

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATE PUBLIC ENTITIES TO COMMIT TO HEALTHIER AND MORE  
NUTRITIOUS MEALS IN THEIR PROGRAMS BY SPENDING MORE OF  
THEIR FOOD DOLLARS FOR LOCALLY-PRODUCED PRODUCE OR OTHER  
HAWAII AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is heavily dependent on imported food to  
2 feed its residents, with an estimated 85 to 90 percent of the  
3 food consumed in the state imported; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, Hawaii residents spend an estimated \$3,700,000,000  
6 annually on food, and if some of the dollars spent on imported  
7 food were invested in locally produced food, it would yield  
8 multiple benefits to Hawaii's economy; and  
9

10           WHEREAS, a recent publication by the University of Hawaii  
11 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the  
12 State Department of Agriculture evaluates the economic  
13 multiplier effects of increasing food self-sufficiency in  
14 Hawaii's economy; and  
15

16           WHEREAS, assuming that 85 percent of the food consumed in  
17 Hawaii is imported, \$3,100,000,000 is leaving the State to  
18 support agribusinesses elsewhere, and replacing just ten percent  
19 of these imported foods - assuming appropriate resources and  
20 infrastructures are available for such an expansion - would  
21 amount to some \$313,000,000, or \$94,000,000 at the farm gate,  
22 given a 30 percent farm share; and  
23

24           WHEREAS, taking into account the multiplier effects, this  
25 \$94,000,000 would generate an estimated economy-wide impact of  
26 \$188,000,000 in sales, \$47,000,000 in earnings, \$6,000,000 in  
27 state tax revenues and more than 2,300 jobs; and  
28

29           WHEREAS, other non-monetary benefits include better  
30 environmental stewardship, reduced risk of invasive species, and  
31 land preservation; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii,  
4 Department of Education, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and  
5 other state public entities are requested to commit to healthier  
6 and more nutritious meals in their programs by spending  
7 percent of their food dollars for locally-produced produce or  
8 other Hawaii agricultural products; and  
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these agencies submit a report  
11 to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the Regular  
12 Session of 2011 on the status of their respective purchases and  
13 use of locally-produced produce or other Hawaii agricultural  
14 products and any recommendations for improvements in meeting  
15 this goal; and  
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President  
19 of the University of Hawaii, Superintendent of Education, and  
20 President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health  
21 Systems Corporation.

