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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
AND STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ASCERTAIN THE SAFETY OF  
REPASTEURIZED UNREFRIGERATED MILK SHIPPED TO HAWAII FROM  
THE MAINLAND.

1           WHEREAS, while there were once over 40 dairy farms in  
2 Hawaii, most of them have shut down over the past 25 years, with  
3 only Clover Leaf Dairy and Island Dairy on the Big Island still  
4 in production, and with Meadow Gold as the only remaining major  
5 milk processor; and  
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7           WHEREAS, there are many challenges to running a dairy farm  
8 in Hawaii: the negative effect of tropical heat on milk  
9 production, herd health problems, and conception concerns; the  
10 difficulty of obtaining affordable feed due to the high cost of  
11 land to produce feed crops, and high costs of transporting  
12 imported feed from the mainland; and high cost of animal waste  
13 removal; and  
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15           WHEREAS, there is a daily milk shortage of more than 40,000  
16 gallons on Oahu, resulting in 70 to 80 percent of the milk sold  
17 in Hawaii to be shipped in from the mainland - primarily from  
18 California; and  
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20           WHEREAS, as the milk makes its way over to Hawaii, taking  
21 over a week to ship, and close to a month from milking to  
22 placement on the shelves according to the State Department of  
23 Agriculture (DOA), it is stored in huge tanks that are  
24 unrefrigerated as long as the temperature at the plant is below  
25 45 degrees, then is repasteurized upon arrival in Hawaii, before  
26 it is bottled and placed on the store shelves; and  
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28           WHEREAS, a DOA study found that milk sold on Oahu exceeded  
29 federal regulatory limits for bacterial counts five days prior  
30 to expiration; and



# H.C.R. NO. 12

1 WHEREAS, consumers frequently find that imported milk  
2 spoils before the stamped expiration date; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Milk Control Act, when enacted in 1967, when  
5 the dairy industry in Hawaii was flourishing, was established to  
6 protect the local dairy industry from the fluctuations of the  
7 market and ensure the availability of milk, and not intended to  
8 ensure the safety of shipped milk; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the Milk Control Act does not contain any  
11 standards for the safety of milk shipped from the mainland; now,  
12 therefore,  
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
16 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the United States  
17 Department of Health and Human Services and State Department of  
18 Health, with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture,  
19 determine whether milk shipped to Hawaii from the mainland in  
20 unrefrigerated bulk containers taking more than ten days, and  
21 repasteurized upon its arrival, prior to bottling, is safe for  
22 human consumption; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the  
26 United States Department of Health and Human Services, Director  
27 of the State Department of Health, and the Chairperson of the  
28 Board of Agriculture.  
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OFFERED BY: Tom Brown

[Signature]  
John M. Fleeger

