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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATE PUBLIC ENTITIES TO COMMIT TO HEALTHIER AND MORE NUTRITIOUS MEALS IN THEIR PROGRAMS BY SPENDING TEN PER CENT 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 eighty-five to ninety  
3 percent of the food consumed in the state imported; and  
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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  
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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  
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16 WHEREAS, assuming that eighty-five per cent of the food  
17 consumed in Hawaii is imported, \$3,100,000,000 is leaving the  
18 State to support agribusinesses elsewhere, and replacing just  
19 ten per cent of these imported foods - assuming appropriate  
20 resources and infrastructures are available for such an  
21 expansion - would amount to some \$313,000,000, or \$94,000,000 at  
22 the farm gate, given a thirty per cent farm share; and  
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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  
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29 WHEREAS, other non-monetary benefits include better  
30 environmental stewardship, reduced risk of invasive species, and  
31 land preservation; now, therefore,  
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
34 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session




1 of 2010, that the University of Hawaii, Department of Education,  
2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and other state public  
3 entities are requested to commit to healthier and more  
4 nutritious meals in their programs by spending ten per cent of  
5 their food dollars for locally-produced produce or other Hawaii  
6 agricultural products; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these agencies report to the  
9 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular  
10 Session of 2011 on the status of their respective purchases and  
11 use of locally-produced produce or other Hawaii agricultural  
12 products and any recommendations for improvements in meeting  
13 this goal; and  
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the  
17 University of Hawaii, Superintendent of Education, and President  
18 and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems  
19 Corporation.  
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OFFERED BY: 

  
Justica Woolley

MAR 10 2010