
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE INCORPORATION OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN
SCHOOL MEALS AND EXPANSION OF THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION
PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO WORK,
VOLUNTEER, OR STUDY AT FARMS.

1 WHEREAS, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 121,
2 S.D. 1, H.D. 1 (2009), the University of Hawaii College of
3 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, in collaboration with
4 various entities, submitted a report to the 2010 regular session
5 of the Legislature on the feasibility of establishing a farm-to-
6 school program to provide locally produced fruits and vegetables
7 for public school meals; and

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9 WHEREAS, although the report found various impediments to
10 the establishment of a farm-to-school program, the report also
11 noted that such a program would provide a "win-win" arrangement
12 that improves the quality of food served to school children,
13 promotes long-term healthy eating habits, and enriches
14 agricultural education, while providing local farmers new and
15 potentially lucrative markets; and

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17 WHEREAS, business transactions between local farms and
18 schools keep dollars in the local economy and create jobs; and

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20 WHEREAS, selling agricultural products to schools can be
21 particularly important for beginning or socially disadvantaged
22 farmers because schools provide a consistent and secure customer
23 base; and

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25 WHEREAS, another means of promoting agricultural education
26 in school activities is to provide opportunities for students to
27 work, volunteer, or study at farms; and

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29 WHEREAS, section 302A-431.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
30 requires the Department of Education to establish and administer



1 a comprehensive agriculture education program that teaches
 2 students healthy eating habits and promotes careers in culinary
 3 arts, farming, diversified agriculture, landscaping,
 4 aquaculture, and related fields such as market development and
 5 science and technology; and

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 7 WHEREAS, the agriculture education program may provide
 8 opportunities for students to work, volunteer, or study at farms
 9 as part of school projects or student volunteer opportunities,
 10 and to obtain school credit or fulfill public service
 11 requirements; now, therefore,

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 13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 14 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 15 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
 16 is requested to require each public school with a school meals
 17 program to serve, at least once each week, agricultural products
 18 purchased from a farm located within the school's regional
 19 administrative district; and

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 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 22 requested to consider expanding the agriculture education
 23 program to provide opportunities for students to work,
 24 volunteer, or study at farms within a school's regional
 25 administrative district, including accommodations for school or
 26 class projects, student volunteer opportunities, and the
 27 provision of school credit or fulfillment of public service
 28 requirements; and

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 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 32 Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY:

Mele Carrara
Tom Brown *AS* *James*

Hekeshmet
ESQ

