
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING EACH SCHOOL WITHIN A REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT WHERE TARO FARMS ARE LOCATED TO SERVE POI OR OTHER TARO PRODUCTS, AND REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION PROGRAM TO ARRANGE FOR WORK, VOLUNTEER, OR STUDY OPPORTUNITIES ON TARO FARMS.

1 WHEREAS, kalo, the Hawaiian word for taro, is a culturally
2 significant plant for Hawaii's indigenous people and the State
3 as a whole; and
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5 WHEREAS, kalo not only expresses the spiritual and physical
6 prosperity of the kanaka maoli and their heritage but also
7 symbolizes environmental, social, and cultural values important
8 to the State; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 2007, the Legislature recognized kalo's
11 significance in the State's history and well-being by
12 designating it as the state plant; and
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14 WHEREAS, kalo is an important food crop in Hawaii, since it
15 contains fiber and vitamins C and B-1 as well as the minerals
16 potassium, magnesium, and iron; and
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18 WHEREAS, kalo has hypoallergenic properties that are
19 extremely important for those with digestive disorders and
20 allergies, including young children and the elderly; and
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22 WHEREAS, fostering the connection between schoolchildren
23 and kalo has health benefits and effectively teaches students
24 about the Hawaiian culture; now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2011, that each public school within a regional
29 administrative district where taro farms are located is
30 requested to serve poi or other taro products under the school
31 meals program; provided that, where it is feasible, each school



1 is requested to purchase the poi or taro product from a taro
2 farm located within its regional administrative district; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Agriculture
5 Education Program established pursuant to section 302A-431.7,
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, is requested to arrange for interested
7 schools, classes, or students to work, volunteer, or study on a
8 taro farm located within the regional administrative district of
9 the interested school, class, or students; provided that the
10 arrangement may accommodate a school or class project, provide
11 school credit, or fulfill a public-service requirement; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
15 Director of the Agriculture Education Program, and Chairperson
16 of the Board of Education, who in turn is requested to transmit
17 copies to each school that is in a regional administrative
18 district where taro farms are located.

