

FEB 23 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO EXPLORE WAYS TO
ENCOURAGE STUDENT INTEREST IN FARMING AND AGRICULTURE.

1 WHEREAS, nationwide, school-children suffer from the
2 effects of being overweight and obese at unparalleled rates; and
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4 WHEREAS, the National Survey of Children's Health reports
5 that 28.5 per cent of Hawaii's public school children are
6 overweight or obese; and
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8 WHEREAS, diets of processed food have not only affected
9 children's physical well-being, but their knowledge and
10 awareness of fresh food; and
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12 WHEREAS, keeping children engaged and connected to the
13 natural world is an important step toward a more sustainable
14 future; now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
18 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
19 Agriculture is requested to convene a working group to explore
20 ways to encourage the interest of young people in farming and
21 agriculture; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include:
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- 25 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the
26 Chairperson's designated representative;
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- 28 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Education, or the
29 Chairperson's designated representative;
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- 31 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
32 Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, or the Chairperson's
33 designated representative;



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- 2 (4) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
- 3 Resources, or the Chairperson's designated
- 4 representative;
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- 6 (5) The Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and
- 7 Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa, or the
- 8 Dean's designated representative;
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- 10 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
- 11 Hawaii Agricultural Research Center, or the
- 12 Chairperson's designated representative;
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- 14 (7) The Chairperson of the Board of the Agribusiness
- 15 Development Corporation, or the Chairperson's
- 16 designated representative; and
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- 18 (8) Working agriculturalists, including agriculturalists
- 19 from the fields of the seed and high technology
- 20 sector, cattle and dairy industry, fresh produce and
- 21 tropical fruit industry, poultry industry, and
- 22 aquaculture and mariculture industry; and
- 23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
25 to explore ways to establish partnerships between the public and
26 private sectors to develop programs that:

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- 28 (1) Engage elementary school students through means such
- 29 as field trips to farms and cultivating garden plots;
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- 31 (2) Maintain interest as students progress through high
- 32 school, using means such as stipends for students who
- 33 work in agricultural business; and
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- 35 (3) Continue interest as students progress through
- 36 college, using means such as scholarships for students
- 37 who are in agriculture-related degree programs; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
40 the programs explored by the working group focus on teaching
41 technology, science, and business methods to establish a global
42 view of food production; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
2 is requested to submit a report of the working group's findings,
3 recommendations, and any proposed legislation to the Legislature
4 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
5 Session of 2012; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
9 Board of Agriculture; the Chairperson of the Board of Education;
10 the Superintendent of Education; the Chairperson of the Board of
11 Directors of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; the Chairperson
12 of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Dean of the
13 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University
14 of Hawaii at Manoa; the Chairperson of the Board of Agribusiness
15 Development Corporation; and the Chairperson of the Board of
16 Directors of the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center.
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OFFERED BY: Clarence K. Nishihara

