
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII-GROWN PRODUCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding three new sections to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§302A-A Farm-to-school program. (a) There is
5 established in the department of education a farm-to-school
6 program. The purpose of the program is to increase procurement
7 of locally-grown fruits and vegetables by public schools.

8 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the farm-
9 to-school program, in consultation as necessary with the
10 departments of health, accounting and general services, and
11 agriculture, shall:

12 (1) Coordinate the identification and development of
13 policies and procedures to implement and evaluate the
14 program;

15 (2) Assist food growers and distributors to market Hawaii-
16 grown produce to schools by informing them of food
17 procurement opportunities, bid procedures, school
18 purchasing criteria, and other requirements;



- 1 (3) Assist schools to connect with local growers and
2 distributors by informing the schools of the sources
3 and availability of Hawaii-grown produce as well as
4 the nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits
5 of purchasing Hawaii-grown produce;
- 6 (4) Identify and recommend mechanisms that will increase
7 the predictability of sales for producers and the
8 adequacy of supply for purchasers;
- 9 (5) Identify and encourage the use of existing curricula,
10 programs, and publications to educate students on the
11 nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits of
12 preparing and consuming Hawaii-grown produce;
- 13 (6) Support efforts to advance other farm-to-school
14 connections such as farmers markets on school grounds,
15 school gardens, and community-supported agriculture;
16 and
- 17 (7) Seek additional private and public sector funds to
18 leverage any appropriations.
- 19 (c) As used in this section:
20 "Hawaii-grown produce" means fruits and vegetables grown or
21 raised in the State that are unprocessed, minimally processed,



1 flash frozen, or otherwise prepared and handled to maintain its
2 fresh nature while providing convenience to the user.

3 "Minimally processed foods" means food that has only been
4 cleaned, washed, cut, or portioned.

5 §302A-B Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program.

6 (a) The Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program is
7 created in the department of education. The purpose of the
8 program is to facilitate consumption of locally produced
9 nutritious snacks in order to improve student health and expand
10 the market for locally grown fresh produce.

11 (b) The program shall increase the number of school
12 children with access to Hawaii-grown fresh fruits and vegetables
13 and shall be modeled after the United States Department of
14 Agriculture fresh fruit and vegetable program, as described in
15 42 United States Code section 1769(g). Schools receiving funds
16 under the federal fresh fruit and vegetable program are not
17 eligible for grants under the Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and
18 vegetable program.

19 (c) To the extent that state funds are appropriated
20 specifically for this purpose, the department shall solicit
21 applications, conduct a competitive process, and make one- or
22 two-year grants to schools to enable eligible schools to provide



1 free locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the
2 school day. When evaluating applications and selecting
3 grantees, the department shall consider and prioritize the
4 following factors:

- 5 (1) The applicant's plan for ensuring the use of Hawaii-
6 grown fruits and vegetables within the program;
7 (2) The applicant's plan for incorporating nutrition and
8 related agricultural stewardship and environmental
9 education into the curriculum; and
10 (3) The applicant's plan for establishing partnerships
11 with state, local, and private entities to further the
12 program's objectives, such as helping the school
13 acquire, handle, store, and distribute fresh fruits
14 and vegetables, and developing educational components
15 around nutrition and agricultural stewardship.

16 (d) The department:

- 17 (1) Shall give funding priority to applicant schools with
18 any of grades kindergarten through eight that:
19 (A) Participate in the national school lunch program;
20 and
21 (B) Have a student population that is comprised of
22 fifty per cent or more of students who are



1 eligible for free or reduced price meals under
2 the federal National School Lunch Act; and

3 (2) May award grants to applicant schools that have a
4 student population that is comprised of less than
5 fifty per cent of students eligible for free or
6 reduced price meals if any funds remain after all
7 eligible priority applicant schools have been awarded
8 grants.

9 (e) The department shall develop and track specific,
10 quantifiable outcome measures of the grant program, such as the
11 number of students served by the program and the dollar value of
12 purchase orders to local farmers resulting from the program.

13 With assistance from the department of agriculture, the
14 department shall track the development of farm-to-school
15 partnerships that extend beyond the cafeteria.

16 (f) As used in this section:

17 "Hawaii-grown fresh fruits and vegetables" means fruits and
18 vegetables grown or raised in this State that are unprocessed,
19 minimally processed, flash frozen, or otherwise prepared and
20 handled to maintain the fresh nature of the fruits and
21 vegetables while providing convenience to the user.



1 "Minimally processed foods" means food that has only been
2 cleaned, washed, cut, or portioned.

3 §302A-C School gardens. (a) All schools are authorized
4 to grow food in school gardens for consumption in their school
5 lunch and as part of Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable
6 programs.

7 (b) Every school garden program shall educate students
8 about organic and conventional growing methods.

9 (c) The department may adopt rules under chapter 91 to
10 facilitate the implementation of this section."

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
13 and to read as follows:

14 "§346- Farmers to food banks pilot program. (a) The
15 department of human services shall establish a pilot program in
16 cooperation with the department of agriculture to contract with
17 local farmers to provide Hawaii-grown produce to low-income
18 people through designated food banks. The pilot program shall
19 operate in select pilot site communities statewide.

20 (b) The department of human services shall select the
21 pilot communities that shall participate in the project. The
22 selection of pilot communities shall be based on:



1 (1) The percentage of the population suffering from hunger
2 and food insecurity;

3 (2) The existence and success of the local food bank
4 program;

5 (3) The potential to engage and contract with local
6 farmers; and

7 (4) The capacity to leverage private sector funding and
8 in-kind contributions.

9 (c) Any funds appropriated by the legislature shall be
10 used by the pilot program to contract with local farmers to
11 provide fruits and vegetables for distribution to low-income
12 people through designated food banks.

13 (d) The department of human services shall report to the
14 legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of the
15 2012 and 2013 regular sessions regarding the progress of the
16 pilot program."

17 SECTION 3. In codifying the new sections added by section
18 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
19 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
20 the new sections in this Act.

21 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.



H.B. NO. 1280

1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

INTRODUCED BY:





Della A. Belatti

JAN 25 2011



Report Title:

Hawaii-Grown Produce

Description:

Establishes the farm-to-school program in the department of education to increase the procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables. Establishes the Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program to increase schoolchildren's access to Hawaii produce. Establishes the farmers to food banks pilot program.

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