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## HOUSE 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  
31 a comprehensive agriculture education program that teaches  
32 students healthy eating habits and promotes careers in culinary  
33 arts, farming, diversified agriculture, landscaping,



1 aquaculture, and related fields such as market development and  
2 science and technology; and

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

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

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

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
29 Education and the Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY: Mele Carrace

Don Brown [Signature]

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