



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**COMMITTEES ON HEALTH and AGRICULTURE**

**HCR 94, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A  
TASK FORCE TO EXPAND A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM STATEWIDE**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Director of Health**

**March 27, 2012  
10:30 am, Room 329**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this Resolution.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** The DOH will convene the task force with an external facilitator; estimated cost is  
3 \$7,500.00

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of House Concurrent Resolution 94 is to convene a task force  
5 to determine how best to expand a school garden program statewide. The task force is required to report  
6 its findings and recommendations, including recommendations for legislation and funding.

7 The DOH would like to support the development of school gardens statewide as part of its  
8 chronic disease prevention strategy. The evaluation of school garden projects has demonstrated  
9 improvements in students' knowledge, attitudes and behaviors related to the consumption of fruits and  
10 vegetables. Benefits of a diet rich in fruits and vegetables include a reduced risk for heart attack,  
11 diabetes, high blood pressure blood pressure, and some cancers.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.  
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**Date:** 03/27/2012

**Committee:** House Health/House Agriculture

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Resolution:** HCR 094

**Purpose of Resolution:** REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A  
TASK FORCE TO EXPAND A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM  
STATEWIDE.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports this resolution and will send a representative to participate on the School Garden Task Force.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.