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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARING OCTOBER AS "FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH" IN HAWAII AND  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, IN COOPERATION  
WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A  
FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1           WHEREAS, "Farm to School" refers to a nationwide movement  
2 to enrich children's bodies and minds while supporting local  
3 economies and encouraging an interest in agriculture among the  
4 next generation; and

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6           WHEREAS, under Farm to School programs, an increasing  
7 number of schools have begun to source more foods locally and  
8 provide complementary educational activities to their students  
9 that emphasize food, farming, and nutrition; and

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11           WHEREAS, such programs also link health and nutrition to  
12 farming education, by bringing local or regionally produced  
13 foods into school cafeterias, offering hands-on learning  
14 activities such as school gardening, farm visits, and culinary  
15 classes, and helping to integrate food-related education into  
16 the classroom curriculum; and

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18           WHEREAS, such programs also contribute to student education  
19 and career readiness in science, technology, engineering, and  
20 mathematics fields; and

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22           WHEREAS, Farm to School programs can also address the  
23 concern that this generation of children may be the first to not  
24 outlive their parents, due to the prevalence of physical  
25 inactivity among our youth and the associated risk of obesity;  
26 and



1 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
2 recommends eating more fresh fruits and vegetables as a strategy  
3 to prevent and control obesity; and

4 WHEREAS, childhood obesity is a national epidemic, and in  
5 Hawaii, childhood obesity increased by thirty-eight percent  
6 between 1999 and 2009; and

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8 WHEREAS, the State Department of Education Wellness  
9 Guidelines state that meal programs are designed to feature  
10 fresh and minimally processed fruits and vegetables from local  
11 sources, to the greatest extent possible, and connecting local  
12 farms to schools through Farm to School programs is consistent  
13 with this goal; now, therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
16 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
17 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that October be declared  
18 "Farm to School Month" in the State of Hawaii; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture,  
21 in cooperation with the Department of Education, is requested to  
22 create and implement a Farm to School Program in Hawaii's public  
23 schools; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
26 and Department of Education are each requested to submit a  
27 report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
28 convening of the Regular Session of 2014, containing information  
29 on their progress in creating and implementing the Farm to  
30 School Program.

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
34 Board of Agriculture, the Chairperson of the Board of Education,  
35 and the Superintendent of Education.

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38 OFFERED BY:

*[Signature]*  
*Beth Lukumole*

*Jan P. Clark*  
*Tom Brown*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
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