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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE FARM-TO-TABLE TASK FORCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that farm-to-table  
2 initiatives foster agricultural self-sustainability. In  
3 addition, farm-to-table programs can benefit our State by  
4 connecting local agricultural producers with local consumers and  
5 purchasers, supporting our local agricultural industry,  
6 mitigating adverse environmental impacts caused by transporting  
7 food over long distances, and instilling healthy eating habits.  
8 The legislature also finds that farm-to-table initiatives are in  
9 line with the goals of Hawaii's long-term sustainability plan.  
10           Furthermore, healthy eating and good nutrition is important  
11 to all residents, especially children. Well-nourished children  
12 perform better in school and have higher academic achievement.  
13 Increasing children's knowledge of local agriculture and  
14 improving their eating habits would improve their health and  
15 academic performance, potentially reduce long-term health care  
16 costs, and help them lead better lives.

17           The purpose of this Act is to establish the Farm-to-Table  
18 Task Force.



1           SECTION 2.   **Farm-to-Table Task Force**

2           (a)   The mission of the task force is to develop  
3   recommendations and strategies to help local agricultural  
4   producers deliver their products to local consumers and  
5   businesses and increase public awareness of local agricultural  
6   practices and the role that local agriculture plays in a  
7   sustainable community and in supporting a healthy lifestyle.

8           (b)   Beginning no later than January 1, 2015, the  
9           department of agriculture shall convene a task force  
10          to develop recommendations and strategies.

11          (c)   The farm-to-table task force shall consist of:

12           (1)   The chairperson of the board of agriculture or  
13           the chairperson's designated representative, who  
14           shall act as the chair of the task force;

15           (2)   The chairperson of the board of education or the  
16           chairperson's designated representative;

17           (3)   The director of the department of health or the  
18           director's designated representative;

19           (4)   The director of the department of business,  
20           economic development, and tourism or the  
21           director's designated representative;



- 1           (5) The dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa,  
2                   college of tropical agriculture and human  
3                   resources, or the dean's designated  
4                   representative;
- 5           (6) A representative of the Hawaii Farm Bureau  
6                   Federation;
- 7           (7) Any other member that the department of  
8                   agriculture chooses to designate;
- 9           (8) A member of the agriculture industry who  
10                  represents small farmers;
- 11           (9) A member of the restaurant industry;
- 12           (10) A member that shall represent supermarket  
13                  retailers; and
- 14           (11) A member that shall represent farmers' markets
- 15   (d) The task force shall:
  - 16           (1) Develop recommendations and strategies that help  
17                  connect local agricultural producers with  
18                  consumers and purchasers and help facilitate the  
19                  production, sale, and delivery of local products;
  - 20           (2) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or  
21                  hinders consumers and purchasers, including  
22                  private individuals, restaurants, supermarkets,



1 local retailers, schools, and state institutions,  
2 from purchasing and using more locally grown  
3 products;

4 (3) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or  
5 hinders local agricultural producers and sellers  
6 from selling or delivering more locally grown  
7 products to consumers and purchasers;

8 (4) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or  
9 hinders schools or other entities from engaging  
10 in educational campaigns or farm-to-school  
11 initiatives that teach children and the public  
12 about the concepts of food production and  
13 consumption, the value of an accessible supply of  
14 locally grown food, and the interrelationships  
15 between nutrition, food choices, obesity, and  
16 health;

17 (5) Address these barriers that may include, but are  
18 not limited to, the following issues:

- 19 (A) Transportation;
- 20 (B) Storage;
- 21 (C) Marketing;
- 22 (D) Contracting; and



- 1 (E) Food certification, food safety, and health;
- 2 and
- 3 (6) Investigate the status and availability of local,
- 4 state, federal, and any other resources that may
- 5 be used accomplish the duties and recommendations
- 6 of the task force and eliminate the barriers that
- 7 prevent or hinder local agricultural products.

8 SECTION 3. The task force shall submit a report to the  
 9 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 10 the regular session of 2016 on its findings and recommendations,  
 11 including any recommendations for an implementation plan or  
 12 proposed legislation.

13 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its approval.  
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INTRODUCED BY:

*James H. ...*  
*...*  
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JAN 23 2014



# H.B. NO. 2644

**Report Title:**

Farm-to-Table Task Force

**Description:**

Establishes a Farm-to-Table Task Force charged with developing ways to improve the production, sale, and delivery of locally grown agricultural products and educating the public on healthy eating habits and lifestyles. Requires a report to the legislature.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

