

JAN 18 2013

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII-GROWN PRODUCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established in the department of
2 agriculture a farm-to-school program. The purpose of the
3 program is to increase procurement of locally-grown fruits and
4 vegetables by public schools.

5 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
6 contrary, the department of agriculture, in consultation with
7 the departments of health, accounting and general services, and
8 education as necessary, may:

9 (1) Coordinate the identification and development of
10 policies and procedures to implement and evaluate the
11 farm-to-school program;

12 (2) Assist in marketing Hawaii-grown produce to schools by
13 informing Hawaii food growers and distributors of food
14 procurement opportunities, bid procedures, school
15 purchasing criteria, and other requirements;

16 (3) Assist schools in connecting with Hawaii growers and
17 distributors by informing the schools of the sources
18 and availability of Hawaii-grown produce as well as



1 the nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits
2 of purchasing Hawaii-grown produce;

3 (4) Identify and recommend mechanisms that will increase
4 the predictability of sales for Hawaii growers and
5 distributors and the adequacy of supply for purchasing
6 schools;

7 (5) Identify and encourage the use of existing curricula,
8 programs, and publications to educate students on the
9 nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits of
10 preparing and consuming Hawaii-grown produce;

11 (6) Support efforts to advance other farm-to-school
12 connections such as farmers markets on school grounds,
13 school gardens, and community-supported agriculture;
14 and

15 (7) Seek additional private and public funds to leverage
16 any appropriations.

17 (c) As used in this section:

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



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

3 SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established a Hawaii-grown
4 produce in schools task force to be placed within the department
5 of agriculture for administrative purposes only.

6 (b) The task force shall:

7 (1) Examine the feasibility of establishing school gardens
8 to grow food for consumption as part of each school's
9 lunch program, specifically looking at food safety
10 certification issues;

11 (2) Examine the feasibility of establishing a Hawaii-grown
12 fresh fruit and vegetable program to be modeled after
13 the United States Department of Agriculture Fresh
14 Fruit and Vegetable Program, as described in title 42
15 United States Code section 769(g); and

16 (3) Advise the department of agriculture in the creation
17 and implementation of the farm-to-school program
18 established pursuant to section 1 of this Act.

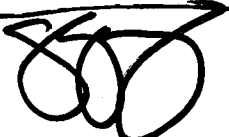
19 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members:

20 (1) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the
21 chairperson's designee;



- 1 (2) The superintendent of education or the
- 2 superintendent's designee;
- 3 (3) The director of health or the director's designee;
- 4 (4) A representative from the Hawaii Farm Bureau
- 5 Federation;
- 6 (5) A representative from the Kokua Hawai'i Foundation;
- 7 (6) The executive director of the Hawaii Association of
- 8 Independent Schools; and
- 9 (7) Any additional members to be determined by the
- 10 chairperson of the board of agriculture.
- 11 (d) The task force shall report its recommendations and
- 12 any proposed legislation to the legislature no later than twenty
- 13 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014.
- 14 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2014.
- 15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Hawaii-Grown Produce; Farm-to-School

Description:

Establishes the farm-to-school program in the department of agriculture to increase the procurement of locally-grown fruits and vegetables. Establishes a task force within the department of agriculture to examine the feasibility of establishing school gardens and creating a Hawaii-grown fresh fruit and vegetable program and to advise the department of agriculture in the creation and implementation of the farm-to-school program.

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