

MAR 07 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO DEVELOP NUTRITIONALLY SOUND PUBLIC SCHOOL MENU PLANS THAT GIVE STUDENTS THE OPTION OF LOW-FAT, PLANT-BASED, AND HIGH-FIBER ENTREES AS PART OF A SCHOOL LUNCH MEAL.

1 WHEREAS, all students should be assured nutritionally
2 balanced diets to help them become healthy adults who do not
3 suffer from the effects of obesity or malnutrition; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Medical Journal reports that one-third
6 of Hawaii's school children are either overweight or at risk of
7 becoming overweight; and
8

9 WHEREAS, many children consume too much saturated fat and
10 sodium and do not get enough fiber, whole grains, fruits, or
11 vegetables; and
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13 WHEREAS, as a result of their diets, children are
14 increasingly affected by obesity and related conditions, such as
15 type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease, all of which
16 were previously considered adult diseases; and
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18 WHEREAS, plant-based foods are cholesterol-free, generally
19 low in fat, lower in calories, and higher in fiber; and
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21 WHEREAS, plant-based school meals are not just healthier
22 than conventional school meals, they are some of the healthiest
23 options schools can provide and have the potential to make the
24 biggest impact on improving children's health; and
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26 WHEREAS, many children get more than half of their daily
27 calories at school, and with each low-fat, plant-based, and
28 high-fiber entree that a child chooses, that child is more
29 likely to lower the risk of becoming overweight and developing
30 diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers; and



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1 WHEREAS, across the country, schools that offer low-fat,
 2 plant-based, and high-fiber school meals have found these meals
 3 to be well accepted by their students; and

4
 5 WHEREAS, many schools have found it difficult to meet the
 6 nutritional requirements set forth by the United States
 7 Department of Agriculture; offering low-fat, plant-based, and
 8 high-fiber school meals will make it easier for schools to meet
 9 and even exceed these requirements; now, therefore,

10
 11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
 12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
 13 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
 14 Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health, is
 15 encouraged to develop nutritionally sound public school menu
 16 plans that give students the option of low-fat, plant-based, and
 17 high-fiber entrees as part of a school lunch meal; and

18
 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education, in
 20 cooperation with the Department of Health, is requested to
 21 report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
 22 convening of the Regular Session of 2015, on whether
 23 nutritionally sound public school menu plans have been developed
 24 and implemented to give students the option of low-fat, plant-
 25 based, and high-fiber entrees as part of a school lunch meal;
 26 and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
 30 Education and Director of Health.

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OFFERED BY:








