

MAR 07 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, COLLEGE OF TROPICAL
AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE
TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A SCHOOL FARM
COMPLEX PILOT PROJECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - WEST
OAHU CAMPUS.

1 WHEREAS, rising obesity rates and the limited number of
2 healthy food alternatives prompt the need for healthier living;
3 and

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5 WHEREAS, it is in the public's interest to support
6 agricultural self-sustainability by producing locally grown
7 products, providing healthier food choices, and educating our
8 youth on efficient and sustainable agricultural practices; and

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10 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique climate and cultural history make
11 it an ideal setting for the fostering of healthy agricultural
12 practices; and

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14 WHEREAS, a school farm complex is a bona fide farming
15 enterprise that includes classroom facilities and educational
16 curriculum with groups of students from area schools utilizing
17 the complex's classroom and experiential components on a
18 rotational basis; and

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20 WHEREAS, currently, there is no program in Hawaii's schools
21 that has the facilities and educational curriculum to provide
22 agricultural and educational opportunities for those interested
23 in agricultural self-sustainability; and

24
25 WHEREAS, the integration of farmers and students will
26 promote healthy living and provide students with the necessary
27 information to make healthy and informed choices, which will
28 lead to a healthier society; and



1 WHEREAS, having an agricultural program that allows farmers
2 and students to collaboratively develop and practice ideal
3 farming methods as well as allow farmers to share their
4 innovative knowledge of agriculture will ensure the existence of
5 local farms and produce and also further the goals of Hawaii's
6 long term agricultural sustainability plans by generating and
7 perpetuating interest in farming and agriculture among school
8 children; now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of
13 Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources is
14 requested to establish a school farm complex task force to
15 explore the feasibility of establishing a school farm complex
16 pilot project at the University of Hawaii - West Oahu Campus;
17 and
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the school farm complex task
20 force shall consist of the following members or their respective
21 designees:
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- 23 (1) The Dean of the University of Hawaii, College of
24 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, to serve as
25 the co-chair of the task force;
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- 27 (2) The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at the
28 University of Hawaii - West Oahu, to serve as the co-
29 chair of the task force;
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- 31 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture;
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- 33 (4) The Superintendent of Education;
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- 35 (5) The Director of Health; and
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- 37 (6) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
38 Tourism; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following representatives
41 be selected and invited by the co-chairs of the task force to
42 join the task force:
43

- 44 (1) A representative of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;



- 1
- 2 (2) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
- 3 small-scale operation farmers;
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- 5 (3) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
- 6 medium-scale operation farmers;
- 7
- 8 (4) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
- 9 large-scale operation farmers;
- 10
- 11 (5) Representatives from nonprofit and community
- 12 agriculture and education organizations; and
- 13
- 14 (6) A member who represents farmers' markets; and
- 15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the school farm complex task
17 force is requested to:

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- 19 (1) Develop recommendations and strategies to facilitate
- 20 the successful implementation of a school farm complex
- 21 pilot project;
- 22
- 23 (2) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or hinders
- 24 a school farm complex pilot project from being
- 25 established;
- 26
- 27 (3) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or hinders
- 28 schools or other entities from participating in school
- 29 farm complex projects that teach children and the
- 30 public about the concepts of food production and
- 31 consumption, the value of an accessible supply of
- 32 locally grown food, the interrelationships between
- 33 nutrition, food choices, obesity, health, and
- 34 agricultural enterprise "best practices";
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- 36 (4) Address implementation barriers that may include the
- 37 following issues:
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- 39 (A) Transportation;
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- 41 (B) Storage;
- 42
- 43 (C) Marketing;
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- 1 (D) Contracting; and
- 2
- 3 (E) Food certification, food safety, and health; and
- 4
- 5 (5) Investigate the status and availability of local,
- 6 state, federal, and any other resources that may be
- 7 used to further the mission and recommendations of the
- 8 task force and eliminate the barriers that prevent or
- 9 hinder the establishment of a school farm complex; and

10
 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 12 submit to the Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to
 13 the convening of the regular session of 2016, a report on its
 14 findings and recommendations, including an implementation plan
 15 and proposed legislation; and

16
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on
 18 June 30, 2016; and

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 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the College
 22 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of
 23 Hawaii at Manoa, the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs of the
 24 University of Hawaii - West Oahu, the Chairperson of the Board
 25 of Agriculture, the Superintendent of Education, the Director of
 26 Health, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and
 27 Tourism, and the President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.

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 30 OFFERED BY: Jim

