

JAN 29 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that farm to school
2 programs improve the connection that communities have with
3 fresh, nutritious food and local farmers by changing food
4 purchasing and education practices at schools and preschools.
5 Across the country, an increasing number of states have
6 established farm to school programs. Schools in these states
7 are procuring locally grown or locally raised agricultural
8 products from local farmers and providing school children with
9 educational activities that emphasize food, farming, and
10 nutrition. However, there are many challenges and successes
11 that come with the implementation of a farm to school program
12 and a statewide, one-size-fits-all approach may delay the
13 implementation process. Allowing a single department of
14 education complex area to implement a farm to school program,
15 rather than requiring statewide implementation, may allow a
16 complex area that has the resources to implement a farm to
17 school program without delay and in partnership with the complex



1 area's farmers. In addition, to assist the implementation of a
2 farm to school program, Washington State's Department of
3 Agriculture has created a tool kit to help start a farm to
4 school program. In addition, other states, including Ohio and
5 Virginia, began farm to school programs with only one or two
6 products.

7 A farm to school program supports a local economy and
8 enriches school children's bodies and minds by bringing locally
9 grown or raised foods into school cafeterias; offering hands-on
10 learning activities including school gardening, farm visits, and
11 culinary classes; and integrating food-related education into
12 the classroom curriculum.

13 The legislature further finds that the United States
14 Department of Agriculture supports farm to school efforts
15 through the national Farm to School Program that includes
16 research, training, technical assistance, and grants. In 2014,
17 the United States Department of Agriculture announced more than
18 \$5,000,000 in grants for eighty-two projects that support the
19 Farm to School Program in forty-two states and the U.S. Virgin
20 Islands. According to the United States Department of
21 Agriculture's recent Farm to School Census, school districts



1 participating in farm to school programs purchased and served
2 over \$385,000,000 in local food during the 2011-2012 school
3 year; and more than half of the participating schools plan to
4 increase local food purchases.

5 The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii
6 voluntary farm to school program to improve school children's
7 access to nutritious foods in public educational institutions by
8 providing department of education complex areas with the
9 opportunity and option to purchase locally grown food for
10 schools from food safety audit certified farms in the State;
11 provided that the respective complex area superintendent
12 authorizes participation in the Hawaii voluntary farm to school
13 program.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
16 and to read as follows:

17 **"§141- Hawaii voluntary farm to school program;**
18 **department of education complex areas.** (a) There is
19 established within the department of agriculture the Hawaii
20 voluntary farm to school program. The purpose of the voluntary
21 farm to school program shall be to provide department of



1 education complex areas with the opportunity and option to
2 improve school children's access to nutritious foods in public
3 educational institutions by increasing the purchase of foods
4 grown or raised on food safety audit certified farms in Hawaii
5 by department of education schools.

6 (b) A department of education complex area may participate
7 in the Hawaii voluntary farm to school program; provided that
8 the complex area superintendent authorizes the department of
9 education complex area's participation in the Hawaii voluntary
10 farm to school program pursuant to section 302A-604.

11 (c) A farmer providing products to a department of
12 education complex area's farm to school program shall provide
13 evidence that the farmer has an adequate supply of products to
14 supply the complex area's farm to school program for one year.

15 (d) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
16 91 to administer and implement this section."

17 SECTION 3. Section 302A-604, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 **"§302A-604 Complex area superintendents.** The
20 superintendent of education, with the approval of the board,
21 shall appoint complex area superintendents for schools. The



1 complex area superintendents shall supervise the delivery of
2 administrative and instructional support services within their
3 respective complex areas, including:

- 4 (1) Personnel, fiscal, and facilities support;
- 5 (2) Monitoring of compliance with applicable state and
6 federal laws;
- 7 (3) Curriculum development, student assessment, and staff
8 development services; ~~and~~
- 9 (4) Special education programs and special schools within
10 the complex area ~~[]~~; and
- 11 (5) Participation by the complex area in the Hawaii
12 voluntary farm to school program pursuant to section
13 141- ."

14 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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INTRODUCED BY:

[Signature]
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S.B. NO. 1292

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Voluntary Farm to School Program; Department of Education; Complex Area Superintendents

Description:

Establishes the Hawaii voluntary farm to school program; allows a department of education complex area to participate in the Hawaii voluntary farm to school program if authorized by the complex area superintendent; and provides complex area superintendents with the authority to make the decision whether to have their respective department of education complex area participate in the Hawaii voluntary farm to school program.

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

