
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF USING REUSABLE CUTLERY
AND FLATWARE AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is committed to sustainability
2 and the preservation of our natural environment and resources;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Education is committed to
6 fostering values in Hawaii's students consistent with the State
7 of Hawaii's goals regarding preservation and sustainability; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Department of Education strives to make cost-
10 conscious decisions when considering improving student learning
11 environments; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Department of Education schools currently use
14 single-use plates and single-use plastic eating utensils; and
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16 WHEREAS, utilizing reusable cutlery can result in
17 environmental benefits such as reduced waste and greenhouse gas
18 emissions; and
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20 WHEREAS, utilizing reusable cutlery as opposed to
21 disposable cutlery reduces overall cost to schools and removes
22 the need for disposables to be regularly transported to and
23 unpacked at schools; and
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25 WHEREAS, the environmental impact of utilizing reusable
26 cutlery at two middle schools in Minnetonka, Minnesota included
27 the prevention of approximately 6,000 pounds of on-site solid
28 waste in the first year, and the schools collectively saved
29 approximately \$3,000 by buying reusable utensils and bowls,
30 lowering the annual per student costs for food-ware from \$6.89
31 to \$4.83; and
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1 WHEREAS, a study of the feasibility of switching to
2 reusable cutlery and flatware could potentially result in long-
3 term cost savings for Department of Education schools; now,
4 therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2018, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to
9 conduct a feasibility study on switching from single-use plastic
10 eating utensils to reusable cutlery at Department of Education
11 schools, including the costs and potential savings for using
12 reusable food-ware; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
15 requested to cooperate with the Legislative Reference Bureau and
16 to provide whatever information, assistance, and support may be
17 requested by the Bureau; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
20 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
21 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
22 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of
23 the Regular Session of 2019; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
27 Reference Bureau, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and
28 the Superintendent of Education.

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31 OFFERED BY:

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