
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUPPLY EACH PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT IN THE STATE WITH MEALS, READY-TO-EAT, FOR CONSUMPTION WHEN NATURAL DISASTERS OR OTHER EMERGENCY INCIDENTS OCCUR.

1 WHEREAS, students typically spend up to eight hours per day
2 at school; and

3
4 WHEREAS, it is foreseeable that, if a natural disaster
5 occurs, such as a major storm, earthquake, or flood, students
6 may be trapped at their respective school campuses for extended
7 periods of time; and

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9 WHEREAS, man-made emergencies, such as the September 5,
10 2006, incident in which a military vehicle collided with a
11 pedestrian overpass in Aiea, forcing the State to close six
12 lanes of the H-1 Freeway for thirteen hours, can also stall the
13 ability of students to reach home; and

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15 WHEREAS, students who are at school for extended periods of
16 time need access to food; and

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18 WHEREAS, although public schools are usually equipped to
19 provide prepared meals to students at scheduled mealtimes, they
20 do not always have the resources to provide meals to students
21 when emergencies occur; and

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23 WHEREAS, a Meal, Ready-to-Eat (MRE), is an individual field
24 ration that provides a full meal in a sealed package and
25 typically has a storage life of three years or longer; and

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27 WHEREAS, members of the military often consume MREs when
28 normal food facilities are not available; and

29



H.R. NO. 91

1 WHEREAS, MREs are also suitable for consumption by young
 2 children, especially when disasters or other emergencies prevent
 3 their parents from picking them up from school; now, therefore,
 4

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 6 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 7 of 2018, that the Department of Education is requested to supply
 8 each public school student enrolled in kindergarten through
 9 sixth grade with one MRE; and
 10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 12 requested to instruct students who receive MREs to keep their
 13 MREs on hand, and only consume the MREs if a natural disaster
 14 or other emergency incident occurs, to teach the students
 15 lessons on disaster preparedness; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 19 Education and the Superintendent of Education.
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 21
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OFFERED BY:

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Richard Long
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HR-91

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 1:38:13 PM

Testimony for EDN on 4/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Chair; the Honorable Sam Satoru Kong, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Education:

Good afternoon. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HR91** relating to MREs and disaster preparedness in schools.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **HR91** and strongly supports its adoption.

HR91 is in accord with the Democratic Platform as it requests the Department of Education to supply each public school student enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade with one MRE; and that the Department of Education is requested to instruct students who receive MREs to keep their MREs on hand, and only consume the MREs if a natural disaster or other emergency incident occurs, and to teach the students lessons on disaster preparedness.

The DPH Platform states that "We believe that the future of our state as well as our country depends upon an educated and knowledgeable citizenry. We support the prioritization of our resources toward providing quality public education and library services to every student, regardless of learning capacity or ability to pay, in an environment conducive to the learning process. These resources shall be made available at every level, from pre-school through higher education, including life-long learning. Educational facilities must be maintained, renovated and built to 21st century innovations so that our students learn in well-designed, safe environments." (Platform of the DPH, P.6, Lines 296-302 (2016)).

Given that **HR91** requests the Department of Education to supply each public school student enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade with one MRE; and that the Department of Education is requested to instruct students who receive MREs to keep

their MREs on hand, and only consume the MREs if a natural disaster or other emergency incident occurs, and to teach the students lessons on disaster preparedness, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support its adoption.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.
Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja
Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/tel.: (808) 258-8889



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

LATE

HR 91 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUPPLY EACH PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT IN THE STATE WITH MEALS, READY-TO-EAT, FOR CONSUMPTION WHEN NATURAL DISASTERS OR OTHER EMERGENCY INCIDENTS OCCUR

Aloha Chairman Woodson, Vice chair Kong and members of the House Committee on Education. The first Hawaiian Civic Club was founded a century ago by Prince Kuhio Kalanianaʻole and other Hawaiian leaders as a means to help better the conditions of the Native Hawaiian people who were trying to cope with the overthrow of their Kingdom by the United States.

The organization has grown and thrived while maintaining and building support for Hawaii's native people, with particular emphasis on the field of education. Over the years since 1918, individual civic clubs have contributed to the educations of hundreds of Hawaiian students at many levels, from simple work related assistance to PhDs.

It is appropriate now to support House Resolution 91 that will provide students in Hawaii's public education system with the most basic of human needs during emergencies. Meals, Ready-to Eat, (MRE) are field tested and proven to provide basic nutrients under trying conditions such as natural disasters or conditions of dire poverty. Meanwhile, we hope always that MREs are also available under happy, less stressful circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for HR 91.

Contact

HR-91

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 8:14:00 AM
Testimony for EDN on 4/13/2018 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Russo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this measure. I'm a teacher and I worry how we will keep students fed and hydrated if there is ever a natural or man-made disaster. We must consider how we'll take care of students if there is ever an extended lockdown. In this instance, students would be confined to the classroom without food or water (we must also consider how they will relieve themselves and consider supplying each classroom with a bucket). Other instances may occur such as the one referenced in the resolution where traffic is at a standstill and kids must remain at school well past the time school gets out. It's essential that we are proactive in caring for our keiki at school. Their well-being must always be of utmost importance. I would like to see this initiative expanded to include middle and high school students in the future.

Mahalo,

Christine Russo

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DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/13/2018
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HR 091 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUPPLY EACH PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT IN THE STATE WITH MEALS, READY-TO-EAT, FOR CONSUMPTION WHEN NATURAL DISASTERS OR OTHER EMERGENCY INCIDENTS OCCUR.

Purpose of Resolution:

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) agrees with the intent of HR 091 and is not opposed to the purchasing and storing of ready to eat meals. However, the DOE will need additional funding to establish the food supply inventory to purchase food items and adequate facilities to store such food items plus funding to refresh the inventory every three years.

The cost for a case of 12 MREs is \$119.03 and has a shelf life of three (3) years at 80 degrees Fahrenheit. The cost per student for one (1) MRE would approximate to \$9.20 or a total of \$921,530 to supply all K-6 students in the DOE and a temperature controlled storing facility would be necessary at each school site.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.