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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO OFFER VEGETARIAN LUNCH  
MEALS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY.

1 WHEREAS, about thirty percent of the world's total ice-free  
2 surface is used to raise poultry, pork, and cattle that humans  
3 eventually eat; and  
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5 WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.5 billion cows and bulls  
6 worldwide, with a single cow creating between seventy and one  
7 hundred twenty kilograms of methane a year; and  
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9 WHEREAS, methane is a gas which has been proven to be more  
10 than twenty times more harmful to the environment than carbon  
11 dioxide and has been linked directly to contributing to climate  
12 change; and  
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14 WHEREAS, a reduction in meat consumption can be beneficial  
15 not only to the environment but to the health of Hawaii's  
16 students; and  
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18 WHEREAS, offering vegetarian meals can greatly increase  
19 demand for local greens and promote local farming jobs and  
20 agriculture; and  
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22 WHEREAS, a vegetarian diet has been shown to reduce the  
23 chances of developing diabetes, lower cholesterol, and decrease  
24 the risk of cardiovascular disease, among other benefits; and  
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26 WHEREAS, offering vegetarian meals can promote not only a  
27 healthy lifestyle for the state's youth but the making of  
28 environmentally conscious personal decisions; and  
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30 WHEREAS, hundreds of schools across the United States,  
31 including Kamehameha Schools Maui, have already made the



1 decision to support the health of students and to promote  
2 environmentally conscious eating and have adopted a "Meatless  
3 Monday" lunch program; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
7 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is  
8 urged to offer one vegetarian lunch meal based on healthy greens  
9 or similar quality fruits and vegetables in all public schools  
10 at least once weekly; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
13 urged to introduce a "Meatless Monday" program to inform  
14 students about the health and environmental benefits of a  
15 vegetarian diet; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
19 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of  
20 Education.  
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