
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that up to forty-five per
2 cent of food in public schools is wasted each day, costing the
3 department of education millions of dollars each year. Food
4 waste is the second-largest contributor to waste and accounts
5 for twenty-five per cent of all materials sent to landfills.
6 Production of food for the State's public schools uses
7 significant resources, including fresh water, fertilizer, and
8 agricultural land. In addition, this excessive use of food
9 resources contributes significantly to climate change and the
10 State's carbon emissions through methane gas emitted in
11 landfills and carbon dioxide emitted during production and
12 shipment of food to the State.

13 The legislature further finds that safely sharing unused
14 food with those who need it and implementing on-site campus
15 composting programs are effective ways to divert significant
16 amounts of food waste from landfills, save millions of dollars
17 each year, provide a valuable and engaging learning experience



1 for students, and produce tons of fresh carbon-sequestering
2 compost for use by local farmers and communities.

3 The legislature also finds that students involved with on-
4 site campus composting programs can learn about the
5 relationships between composting, food waste, nutrient cycling,
6 soil health, and local food production, and be empowered with
7 valuable tools to reduce their own carbon and waste footprints
8 for themselves and those around them.

9 The legislature reports that Hawaii imports over six
10 million pounds of food on a daily basis at a cost of over
11 \$3,000,000,000 per year. With ninety per cent of Hawaii's food
12 being imported, residents are at a direct risk of food
13 shortages. In the event of a natural disaster or other external
14 factor, food supplies in Hawaii would last between three and ten
15 days. An increase in locally sourced proteins and produce will
16 simultaneously boost the local economy and improve overall state
17 resiliency.

18 Educating and engaging students about locally sourced foods
19 and native Hawaiian food crops can also provide students with
20 valuable lessons about their own health, culture, carbon
21 footprints, and waste footprints.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish long-
2 term targets in the sustainable schools initiative to address
3 food waste and improve sustainable meals in Hawaii's public
4 schools.

5 SECTION 2. Section 302A-1510, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "~~[+]§302A-1510[+]~~ **Sustainable schools initiative.** (a)

8 The department shall establish ~~[a-goal]~~ goals of ~~[becoming]~~:

- 9 (1) Becoming net-zero with respect to energy use,
10 producing as much renewable energy as the department
11 consumes across all public school facilities, by
12 January 1, 2035~~[-]~~;
- 13 (2) Becoming net-zero with respect to food waste by safely
14 sharing excess food with those who need it and
15 utilizing all other food waste from public school
16 facilities to create compost at public school
17 campuses, by January 1, 2035; and
- 18 (3) Locally sourcing sixty per cent of all animal proteins
19 and sixty per cent of all produce purchased for meals
20 offered in public schools, by January 1, 2035.



1 The department is encouraged to engage students and incorporate
2 the sustainable schools initiative elements into curriculum as
3 appropriate.

4 (b) The department shall use the amount and value of
5 energy consumed by the department across all public school
6 facilities during the 2015-2016 fiscal year as the benchmark for
7 measuring the department's progress toward the energy usage goal
8 set forth in subsection [~~(a)~~] (a)(1).

9 (c) The department shall submit an annual report that
10 shall include information on:

11 (1) The overall progress toward the net-zero energy goal
12 set forth in subsection [~~(a)~~] (a)(1);

13 (2) Its plans and recommendations to advance the net-zero
14 energy goal set forth in subsection [~~(a)~~] (a)(1); and

15 (3) Any challenges or barriers encountered or anticipated
16 by the department in meeting the net-zero energy goal
17 set forth in subsection [~~(a)~~] (a)(1).

18 (d) The department shall expedite the cooling of all
19 public school classrooms to a temperature acceptable for student
20 learning. When implementing classroom cooling measures, the
21 department, and any contractor hired to implement classroom



1 cooling measures, shall maximize energy efficiency and
2 installation and operating cost savings over the entire life of
3 the project.

4 (e) Pursuant to this section, the department shall include
5 in the report the status of the implementation of measures taken
6 to cool public school classrooms as required by subsection (d).

7 The report shall include the following information:

- 8 (1) The number of completed classrooms in which cooling
9 measures were implemented and the number of classrooms
10 remaining that require cooling;
- 11 (2) The different types of cooling measures implemented;
- 12 (3) The approximate cost per classroom for planned cooling
13 measures, including installation, upgrades, equipment,
14 maintenance, and projected operating costs over the
15 life of the installed cooling measures;
- 16 (4) The approximate cost per completed classroom for
17 cooling measures implemented, including installation,
18 upgrades, equipment, maintenance, and projected
19 operating costs over the life of the installed cooling
20 measures;



1 (5) The number of completed classrooms in which energy
2 efficiency measures were installed or implemented and
3 the number of classrooms remaining that require energy
4 efficiency measures; and

5 (6) The different types of energy efficiency measures
6 installed or implemented.

7 (f) The department shall develop procedures, guidelines,
8 and standards for each public school to safely share excess food
9 with those who need it and create and facilitate their own on-
10 site campus composting program for all other food waste. Each
11 on-site campus composting program shall utilize all applicable
12 food waste and other organic material from the school's
13 cafeteria and other home-brought food waste to the maximum
14 extent practicable. The department shall ensure that each
15 public school is on track to becoming net-zero with respect to
16 food waste. The department may work with the department of
17 health on procedures for the sharing of excess food, on-site
18 campus composting program, and food waste mitigation.

19 (g) The department shall develop plans to locally source
20 sixty per cent of produce and sixty per cent of animal proteins
21 for meals offered in public schools, as measured by the



1 percentage of funds spent on each annually. The department may
2 incorporate local agricultural education, including positive
3 environmental impacts, into its curriculum to the maximum extent
4 practicable.

5 [~~f~~] (h) The department shall report its findings and
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
7 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 each regular session. The report shall include information on:

- 9 (1) The overall progress toward the net-zero food waste
10 goal set forth in subsection (a)(2);
- 11 (2) The number of public schools sharing excess food with
12 others who need it;
- 13 (3) The approximate amount of food shared and where it was
14 delivered;
- 15 (4) The number of public schools that have implemented on-
16 site campus composting programs involving students;
- 17 (5) Different composting methods, procedures, and
18 strategies used at different public schools;
- 19 (6) The approximate cost per public school to implement a
20 successful composting program;



- 1 (7) Data regarding waste reduction and any related cost
- 2 savings at public schools that have implemented
- 3 successful composting programs;
- 4 (8) Plans and recommendations to advance the net-zero food
- 5 waste goal set forth in subsection (a) (2);
- 6 (9) The percentage of produce and animal proteins sourced
- 7 locally, and from where each came; and
- 8 (10) Plans and recommendations to advance the goal of
- 9 locally sourcing sixty per cent of all animal proteins
- 10 and sixty per cent of all produce purchased for meals
- 11 offered in public school pursuant to subsection
- 12 (a) (3)."

13 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DOE; Sustainable Schools Initiative; Food Waste; Compost;
Locally Sourced Food

Description:

Requires the department of education to establish food waste and local-sourcing goals as part of the sustainable schools initiative. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (HD2)

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