
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TO "BUY LOCAL" TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
2 Health are two of the largest state departments in terms of
3 budget, personnel, and purchases; and
4

5 WHEREAS, current law requires procurement preferences ("buy
6 local") to be given to "Hawaii products" under section
7 103D-1002, Hawaii Revised Statutes, defined under section
8 103D-1001, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as products that are mined,
9 excavated, produced, manufactured, raised, or grown in the State
10 where the input constitutes no less than twenty-five per cent of
11 the manufactured cost; and
12

13 WHEREAS, section 3-120-4, Hawaii Administrative Rules,
14 exempts the procurement of certain goods and services from
15 chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including but not limited
16 to the purchase of fresh meats and produce; and
17

18 WHEREAS, Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,
19 created the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Act 8 was based on the belief of the Legislature
22 that government is responsible not only for resolving daily and
23 annual issues, but also to assure the sustainability of the
24 State for generations to come (Auditor's Report, December 2005);
25 and
26

27 WHEREAS, one of the major concerns of the Hawai'i 2050
28 Sustainability Task Force was the reality that Hawaii is an
29 island state and is dependent heavily on imports of literally
30 most things; and
31

32 WHEREAS, to the extent that Hawaii may reduce its
33 dependence on purchases of out-of-state products through buying



1 from in-state suppliers, the more it benefits the local economy
2 and the more it reduces our dependence on shipping; and
3

4 WHEREAS, one of the "Priority actions: Intermediate steps
5 for the year 2020" of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is to
6 "increase production and consumption of local foods and
7 products, particularly agriculture; and
8

9 WHEREAS, local diversified agricultural produce includes
10 fruits and vegetables such as banana, longan, lychee, papaya,
11 pineapple, baby green lettuce, romaine lettuce, round onion,
12 taro, and tomato; local cattle farms produce beef and furnish
13 milk; and
14

15 WHEREAS, "buy local" is critical to the long-term
16 sustainability of the food and manufacturing sectors of Hawaii's
17 economy; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
20 Health are major state government purchasers of food stuffs and
21 other goods and products that can be locally grown or produced
22 if the local demand is sufficient; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
25 Health play major roles, with their combined purchasing power,
26 in helping Hawaii to meet the priority action of increasing
27 production, particularly in agriculture, and consumption of
28 local foods and products; now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
33 Education and the Department of Health are urged in their
34 respective procurements to practice "buy local" to the maximum
35 extent possible to encourage sustainability; and
36

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
39 Education, Director of Health, and the Governor.

