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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
TO "BUY LOCAL" AND TO IMPLEMENT AND DEVELOP FOOD WARE AND  
FOOD WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAMS 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  
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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  
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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  
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18           WHEREAS, Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,  
19 created the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force; and  
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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  
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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  
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1 WHEREAS, to the extent that Hawaii may reduce its  
2 dependence on purchases of out-of-state products through buying  
3 from in-state suppliers, the more it benefits the local economy  
4 and the more it reduces our dependence on shipping; and  
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6 WHEREAS, one of the "Priority actions: Intermediate steps  
7 for the year 2020" of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is to  
8 "increase production and consumption of local foods and  
9 products, particularly agriculture; and  
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11 WHEREAS, local diversified agricultural produce includes  
12 fruits and vegetables such as banana, longan, lychee, papaya,  
13 pineapple, baby green lettuce, romaine lettuce, round onion,  
14 taro, and tomato; local cattle farms produce beef and furnish  
15 milk; and  
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17 WHEREAS, "buy local" is critical to the long-term  
18 sustainability of the food and manufacturing sectors of Hawaii's  
19 economy; and  
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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of  
22 Health are major state government purchasers of food stuffs and  
23 other goods and products that can be locally grown or produced  
24 if the local demand is sufficient; and  
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26 WHEREAS, furthermore, recycling has been a major theme of  
27 the Legislature, and it is vital that the State create  
28 partnerships with the private sector to help overcome any  
29 obstacles, including the lack of commercial composting  
30 facilities, in order to provide additional opportunities for the  
31 purchase of locally produced products that are compostable, and  
32 the recycling of polystyrene food ware that can be used locally  
33 to produce new food ware or related products; and  
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35 WHEREAS, currently, there is only one manufacturer of  
36 polystyrene food ware in Hawaii that meets with the  
37 Legislature's goals of sustainability and providing additional  
38 manufacturing employment opportunities in the State; and  
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40 WHEREAS, further effort is needed to encourage all  
41 polystyrene food ware used in and food waste from Hawaii food  
42 service facilities, including those operated by the Department  
43 of Education, the Department of Health, and hotels and fast food



1 restaurants, to be recycled in order to promote more jobs and a  
2 stronger sustainable future; and

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4 WHEREAS, a similar recycling program has already been  
5 successfully implemented in Massachusetts where both food waste  
6 and polystyrene food trays are separated in cafeterias and sent  
7 to their respective locations for recycling; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of  
10 Health play major roles, with their combined purchasing power,  
11 in helping Hawaii to meet the priority action of increasing  
12 production, particularly in agriculture, and consumption of  
13 local foods and products, and in the promotion of the recycling  
14 of food ware and food waste; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the  
18 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
19 Education and the Department of Health are urged in their  
20 respective procurements to practice "buy local" to the maximum  
21 extent possible to encourage sustainability; and

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and  
24 the Department of Health are urged to develop and implement  
25 polystyrene food ware and food waste recycling programs to  
26 promote more jobs and a stronger sustainable future; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of  
30 Education, Director of Health, and the Governor.

