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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONVENE A TASK  
FORCE TO DEVISE A PLAN WITHIN ONE YEAR TO TIMELY EXPEDITE  
THE INTRODUCTION AND DELIVERY OF HAWAIIAN CACAO TO THE  
MARKETPLACE.

1           WHEREAS, the State of Hawai`i has a propitious opportunity  
2 to develop a new industry in the growing, cultivating,  
3 processing, and shipping of Hawaii-grown cacao to the mainland  
4 United States and the rest of the world; and

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6           WHEREAS, *theobroma cacao*, otherwise known as chocolate and  
7 translated into English as the "Food of the Gods," was  
8 introduced to the Hawaiian Islands in 1830; and

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10          WHEREAS, cacao has been used for centuries as medicine; and

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12          WHEREAS, Asia, in particular, has a growing demand for  
13 cacao for medicinal benefits; and

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15          WHEREAS, Hawaii is ideally located to capture and prosper  
16 from the opportunities from a growing cacao market; and

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18          WHEREAS, in 2003, the Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers  
19 organized a cacao chapter; and

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21          WHEREAS, in 2004, Dole Food Company rejuvenated its Oahu  
22 cacao; now, therefore,

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24          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
25 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
26 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that a Cacao Task Force  
27 be convened consisting of, but not limited to, representatives  
28 from the following stakeholders of the cacao industry: the  
29 Department of Agriculture, [~~landowners~~] current cacao growers,

1 Castle & Cooke, other farms, landowners, manufacturers,  
2 retailers, confectioners, and any other relevant parties; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cacao Task Force shall  
5 convene to develop a plan to identify strategies to accelerate  
6 the growth of the cacao industry, increase the manufacture and  
7 supply of locally grown cacao, promote its use and products, and  
8 identify any potential obstacles to the industry; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cacao Task Force will have  
11 one year to complete the plan and expedite the production and  
12 delivery of Hawaiian cacao to the market; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the  
16 Chairperson of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of  
17 Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Business and  
18 Economic Development and Tourism, the Department of Labor and  
19 Industrial Relations, the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor  
20 of the City and County of Honolulu, and the Honolulu City  
21 Council.  
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