

MAR 12 2008

SENATE 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
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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, Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,
14 created the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force; and
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16 WHEREAS, Act 8 was based on the belief of the Legislature
17 that government is responsible not only for resolving daily and
18 annual issues, but also to assure the sustainability of the
19 State for generations to come (Auditor's Report, December 2005);
20 and
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22 WHEREAS, one of the major concerns of the Hawai'i 2050
23 Sustainability Task Force was the reality that Hawaii is an
24 island state and is dependent heavily on imports of literally
25 most things; and
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27 WHEREAS, to the extent that Hawaii may reduce its
28 dependence on purchases of out-of-state products through buying
29 from in-state suppliers, the more it benefits the local economy
30 and the more it reduces our dependence on shipping; and
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32 WHEREAS, one of the "Priority actions: Intermediate steps
33 for the year 2020" of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is to
34 "increase production and consumption of local foods and
35 products, particularly agriculture; and
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1 WHEREAS, local diversified agricultural produce includes
 2 fruits and vegetables such as banana, longan, lychee, papaya,
 3 pineapple, baby green lettuce, romaine lettuce, round onion,
 4 taro, and tomato; local cattle farms produce beef and furnish
 5 milk; and

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 7 WHEREAS, "buy local" is critical to the long-term
 8 sustainability of the food and manufacturing sectors of Hawaii's
 9 economy; and

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 11 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
 12 Health are major state government purchasers of food stuffs and
 13 other goods and products that can be locally grown or produced
 14 if the local demand is sufficient; and

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 16 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Department of
 17 Health play major roles, with their combined purchasing power,
 18 in helping Hawaii to meet the priority action of increasing
 19 production, particularly in agriculture, and consumption of
 20 local foods and products; now, therefore,

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 22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
 23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
 24 that the Department of Education and the Department of Health
 25 are urged in their respective procurements to practice "buy
 26 local" to the maximum extent possible to encourage
 27 sustainability; and

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

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OFFERED BY: *[Handwritten signature: Lorraine R. Proby]*
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