

MAR 14 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO IMPLEMENT AN
INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE THE PURCHASE OF HAWAII-GROWN
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has recognized the importance
2 of a self-sufficient and sustainable economy; and

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4 WHEREAS, approximately ninety per cent of all food consumed
5 in Hawaii is imported into the State; and

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7 WHEREAS, inexpensive alternatives in food choices often
8 lead to less healthy eating habits which may negatively impact
9 health; and

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11 WHEREAS, although agricultural products grown in Hawaii
12 often cost more than similar imported products, the high quality
13 and freshness of Hawaii grown agricultural products often
14 reflect a philosophy of self-sufficiency, sustainability, and
15 stewardship embodied in Aloha Aina - Love of the Land; and

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17 WHEREAS, expanding the local purchase of Hawaii grown
18 agricultural products would benefit the State's economy, as well
19 as the farmers or producers of the agricultural products, and
20 would promote healthy living through health eating habits; now,
21 therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,
25 that in recognition of the importance of expanding the local
26 market for agricultural products grown in Hawaii, the Department
27 of Agriculture is requested to work with growers and producers
28 of agricultural products grown in Hawaii, federal, state, and
29 county agencies, and relevant private entities to establish a
30 program that provides for the purchase of agricultural products
31 grown in Hawaii by schools, hospitals, military bases,
32 restaurants, retail grocers, and other appropriate consumers;
33 and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
2 is requested to report to the Legislature on the implementation
3 of the program to expand the local market for agricultural
4 products grown in Hawaii no later than twenty days prior to the
5 convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
9 Agriculture, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and
10 Tourism, the Director of Health, the Chairperson of the Board of
11 Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Chairperson of
12 the Executive Committee of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii, the
13 Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce
14 of Hawaii, the President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation,
15 and the Commander of the United States Pacific Command.

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OFFERED BY: Clarence K. Nishihara
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