A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that single-use plastics represent a serious threat to the State's environmental and economic sustainability. Every year, Oahu alone generates more than 2.2 million tons of waste. Even recyclable plastics require extensive processing and must be shipped off-island for recycling at great cost.

The legislature further finds that the department of education contributes to the State's annual plastic waste through its use of single-use plastic utensils in school cafeterias.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a pilot project in Molokai's department of education schools to explore the use of reusable metal utensils in school cafeterias.

SECTION 2. (a) The department of education shall establish a reusable utensil pilot project at department of education schools on the island of Molokai, which shall commence on August 1, 2019, and shall terminate on June 30, 2020.
(b) The department of education may issue grants to establish the pilot project.

(c) The department of education shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purposes of the pilot project.

(d) The department of education shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2020 on the feasibility of statewide implementation of a reusable utensil program.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the reusable utensil pilot project in department of education schools on the island of Molokai.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of education for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.
Report Title:
DOE; Environmental Sustainability; Pilot Project; Appropriation

Description:
Establishes a reusable utensil pilot project in Department of Education schools on Molokai. Requires the Department of Education to report to the legislature on the feasibility of statewide implementation. Appropriates funds.

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