
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION, AND HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEGISLATURE HOW TO SUPPORT GREATER LOCAL PRODUCTION OF FOOD.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii imports the vast majority of its food; and

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WHEREAS, studies have shown that food that is less fresh is less nutritious; and

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WHEREAS, the lengthy process of shipping food into the State reduces the nutritional value of the food; and

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WHEREAS, Hawaii is susceptible to a variety of natural disasters, including hurricanes and tsunamis; and

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WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Hawaii has only approximately a three days' supply of food if the States' harbors are rendered inaccessible; and

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WHEREAS, Hawaii has rich agricultural lands and near-perfect weather; and

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WHEREAS, Hawaii sorely needs to diversify its economy; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference Bureau, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Department of Taxation, and Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, is requested to conduct a study to recommend to the Legislature how to support greater local production of food; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
2 include an examination of how:

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4 (1) General excise tax exemptions could support greater
5 local production of food;

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7 (2) Greater local production of food could help diversify
8 Hawaii's economy; and

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10 (3) Greater local production of food could help ensure
11 that Hawaii's population continues to have access to
12 food if the State's harbors were ever rendered
13 inaccessible due to a natural or human-caused
14 disaster; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
17 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
18 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
19 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular
20 Session of 2022; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
24 Legislative Reference Bureau, Chairperson of the Board of
25 Agriculture, Director of Taxation, Adjutant General, and
26 Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency.

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29 OFFERED BY:



MAR 12 2021

