

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO DESIGNATE AREAS IN EACH COUNTY FOR DAIRY OPERATIONS AND DEVELOP INCENTIVES TO ATTRACT DAIRY OPERATORS TO THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, peak milk production in the State was at one
2 hundred sixty million pounds in 1988, but by 2006, production
3 declined by more than sixty-four percent to fifty-seven million
4 pounds; and

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6 WHEREAS, milk production in the State in 2017 was 1.75
7 million gallons, which equates to just over fifteen million
8 pounds; and

9
10 WHEREAS, the demise of Hawaii's dairies stemmed from the
11 higher cost of local milk production and loss of market presence
12 due to competitive, low-cost imported milk from the mainland
13 United States; and

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15 WHEREAS, local dairy operators face several challenges to
16 the local production of milk, including high costs and
17 environmental challenges; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the State only has two dairies currently operating
20 and one of those dairies intends to shut down its operations in
21 spring 2019; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the State lacks a local animal feed producer,
24 which necessitates the importation of feed by local dairy
25 operators and ranchers; and

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27 WHEREAS, bad weather and mechanical issues on cargo ships
28 caused milk delivery delays and left some store shelves empty
29 the first week in March of 2019; and

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31 WHEREAS, dairy shortages highlight the need for the State
32 to increase its local food production; and



S.C.R. NO. 118

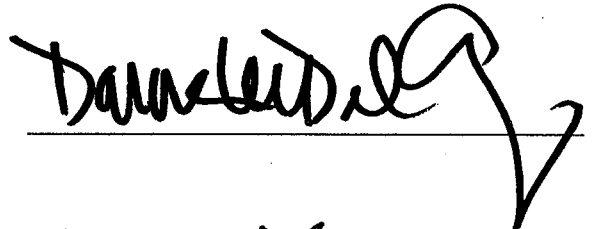
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 2 WHEREAS, local dairies can help reduce the State's reliance
 3 on imported milk; now, therefore,
 4

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 6 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
 7 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Agriculture
 8 is requested to designate areas in each county for dairy
 9 operations and develop incentives to attract dairy operators to
 10 the State; and
 11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
 13 is requested to submit a report of its findings and
 14 recommendations, including a map and explanation of areas in
 15 each county to be designated for dairy operations and proposed
 16 incentives to attract dairy operators to the State, and any
 17 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
 18 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and
 22 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.
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 24
 25

OFFERED BY:





Clarence K. Nishihara

