

MAR 8 - 2019

SENATE 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

5
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

14
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

26
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

30
31 WHEREAS, dairy shortages highlight the need for the State
32 to increase its local food production; and

33
34 WHEREAS, local dairies can help reduce the State's reliance
35 on imported milk; now, therefore,



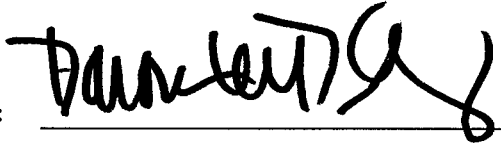
S.R. NO. 88

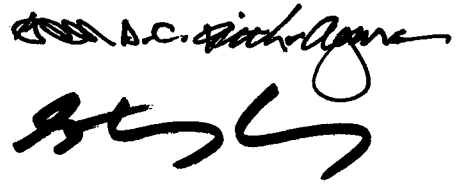
1
 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 3 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the
 4 Department of Agriculture is requested to designate areas in
 5 each county for dairy operations and develop incentives to
 6 attract dairy operators to the State; and

7
 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
 9 is requested to submit a report of its findings and
 10 recommendations, including a map and explanation of areas in
 11 each county to be designated for dairy operations and proposed
 12 incentives to attract dairy operators to the State, and any
 13 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
 14 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

15
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 17 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chairperson of the
 18 Board of Agriculture.

19
 20
 21

OFFERED BY: 



Clarence K. Iwihoku

