
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH A
SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AN
INTERAGENCY FOOD SYSTEMS PLAN.

1 WHEREAS, food security is a critical issue in the State;
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4 WHEREAS, the State imports eight-five percent of its food,
5 making it vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters; and

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7 WHEREAS, the State should be proactive in making its local
8 food production more resilient; and

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10 WHEREAS, a sustainable food system is a food system in
11 which producers, retailers, community members, non-governmental
12 organizations, and government agencies partner to create a
13 vibrant and resilient local food economy that enhances and
14 sustains the environmental, economic, and social health of the
15 community; and

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17 WHEREAS, the development of a sustainable food system for
18 the State would support "green" job creation, sustainable
19 economic development, land stewardship, and climate change
20 resiliency; and

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22 WHEREAS, a coordinated food systems plan lead by key
23 stakeholders across the State is critical to develop a
24 sustainable and equitable food economy; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
28 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
29 Agriculture is requested to establish a Sustainable Food Systems
30 Working Group to develop an interagency food systems plan; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of
2 Agriculture, or the Chairperson's designee, and the Director of
3 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, or the Director's
4 designee, are requested to serve as co-chairpersons of the
5 Sustainable Food Systems Working Group; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one member of the House of
8 Representatives, to be selected by the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives, and one member of the Senate, to be selected by
10 the President of the Senate, are requested to collaboratively
11 select and invite one representative with knowledge in each of
12 the following areas to serve as working group members:

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14 (1) Food as a human right and healthy food for all;
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16 (2) Social equity and food justice;
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18 (3) Food system resilience;
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20 (4) Agriculture and food system sustainability;
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22 (5) Food at the center of a circular economy;
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24 (6) Sustainable education, workforce development, and fair
25 labor; and
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27 (7) Good food governance; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency food systems
30 plan is requested to:

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32 (1) Be linked to the United Nations sustainable
33 development goals for a more sustainable, resilient
34 local food economy that enhances and sustains the
35 environment, economic, and social health of the
36 community;
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38 (2) Identify a governance structure;
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40 (3) Include a plan for implementation;
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42 (4) Address the following:



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- (A) Food as a human right and healthy food for all;
 - (B) Social equity and food justice;
 - (C) Food system resilience;
 - (D) Agriculture and food system sustainability;
 - (E) Food at the center of a circular economy;
 - (F) Sustainable education, workforce development, and fair labor; and
 - (G) Good food governance; and
- (5) Incorporate any county food access plans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sustainable Food Systems Working Group is requested to submit the interagency food systems plan and its recommendations for the implementation of the plan, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture is requested to provide any necessary administrative support, including support for the preparation of the interagency food systems plan, to the Sustainable Food Systems Working Group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sustainable Food Systems Working Group is requested to be dissolved on June 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

OFFERED BY:



MAR - 8 2024

