

MAR 08 2024

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
AND CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT SERVE MEALS TO OFFER PLANT-BASED  
MEAL OPTIONS PRIORITIZING INGREDIENTS FROM LOCALLY SOURCED  
AND LOCALLY FARMED PRODUCTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State recognizes the importance of promoting  
2 healthy dietary choices among its residents; and  
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4 WHEREAS, a plant-based diet can reduce the chances of  
5 developing diabetes, lower cholesterol, and decrease the risk of  
6 cardiovascular disease; and  
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8 WHEREAS, the Department of Education plays a crucial role  
9 in shaping the lifelong eating habits and preferences of Hawaii  
10 residents by exposing youths to new and healthy foods during the  
11 school day; and  
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13 WHEREAS, encouraging the adoption of plant-based meal  
14 options in public schools and charter schools will promote the  
15 well-being of students and help build a foundation for a healthy  
16 lifestyle; and  
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18 WHEREAS, incorporating locally sourced and locally farmed  
19 ingredients into school meals will also support the State's  
20 agricultural industry, help fund local jobs, and potentially  
21 enhance the nutritional quality of meals through the use of  
22 fresher ingredients; now, therefore,  
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the  
26 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
27 Education is urged to require all public schools and charter  
28 schools that serve meals to offer plant-based meal options,



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1 prioritizing ingredients from locally sourced and locally farmed  
2 products; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
6 Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY:

*Mike Gabbard*

