

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

394

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 110  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, to which was referred H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to modify certain benchmark goals and timelines for the Department of Education to purchase a certain amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that supporting local agriculture and strengthening Hawaii's food systems are critical to the State's economic resilience, sustainability, and public health. While existing laws set procurement benchmarks for various state agencies, inconsistencies in these targets create challenges for state agencies and local farmers trying to scale production. Specifically, the programmatic goal for the Department of Education to locally source at least thirty percent of food served in public schools by 2030 is higher than other state departments.

2025-1631 HB110 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Therefore, this measure resolves discrepancies between the Department of Education's locally sourced food benchmarks and those of other state agencies, ensuring a more consistent and effective implementation of Hawaii's food sustainability goals.

Your Committee notes the concerns that the shifting of the term "produce" to "food" in Act 144, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, may have inadvertently broadened the inclusion of products that do not substantially benefit the local agricultural landscape. Additionally, your Committee notes that updating reporting requirements for the Department of Education to track the status of progress toward local procurement goals more accurately is essential.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture & Food  
Systems,

  
KIRSTIN KAHALOA, Chair



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Bill/Resolution No.: HB110, HD1		Committee Referral: EDN, AGR, FIN		Date: 2/7/2025	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
AGR Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KAHALOA, Kirstin (C)		X			
2. KUSCH, Matthias (VC)		X			
3. LOWEN, Nicole E.		X			
4. PERRUSO, Amy A.		X			
5. QUINLAN, Sean		X			
6. WARD, Gene					X
TOTAL (6)		5			1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					