
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REDUCING OR ELIMINATING THE USE OF TRANS FAT IN FOOD PREPARATION AND FOOD SERVICE BY HAWAII'S RESTAURANT INDUSTRY.

1 WHEREAS, although trans fats occur in small quantities in
2 meat and dairy products, most trans fats consumed today are
3 created as a side effect of partial hydrogenation of plant oils,
4 an industrial process developed in the early 1900s; and
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6 WHEREAS, health authorities worldwide recognize that eating
7 trans fat that results from partial hydrogenation is neither
8 required nor beneficial for health, increases the risk of
9 coronary heart disease, and creates more of a health risk than
10 consumption of fats that occur naturally; and
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12 WHEREAS, trans fats, which are tightly regulated in a few
13 countries and must be disclosed on product labels in many other
14 countries such as the United States, are being voluntarily
15 removed from food products by many companies that are
16 establishing trans fat free product lines; and
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18 WHEREAS, in May 2005, Tiburon, California, became the first
19 American city where all restaurants voluntarily cook with trans-
20 fat free oils; and
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22 WHEREAS, in December 2006, the city of New York became the
23 first large United States city to strictly limit the use of
24 trans fat in restaurants; and
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1 WHEREAS, other cities throughout the country such as
2 Chicago, Philadelphia, and Seattle are also considering a ban on
3 oils containing trans fats for large chain restaurants; and
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5 WHEREAS, the state of Massachusetts is considering
6 legislation to ban restaurants statewide from preparing food
7 with trans fat; and
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9 WHEREAS, major food chains such as Kraft, Kentucky Fried
10 Chicken, McDonalds, Wendy's, Taco Bell, and the Walt Disney
11 Company have chosen to reduce or remove trans fat from their
12 products by a specified date; now, therefore,
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
16 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
17 Health is requested to determine the feasibility of reducing or
18 eliminating the use of trans fat in food preparation and food
19 service by Hawaii's restaurant industry; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
22 requested to work with the Hawaii Restaurant Association and the
23 Hawaii Food Industry Association to survey its members on
24 concerns with reducing or eliminating trans fat in their food
25 preparation or food service activities; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
28 the survey address issues such as consumer trends, costs and
29 availability of trans fat free cooking oils, and economic,
30 health, education, and other concerns surrounding trans fat free
31 food; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
34 requested to submit a report of its findings and
35 recommendations, including proposed legislation, if necessary,
36 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
37 convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the



H.C.R. NO. 311

1 Director of Health, the Hawaii Restaurant Association, and the
2 Hawaii Food Industry Association.

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OFFERED BY:

Piddie T. F. Aulau

MAR 14 2007

