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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REDUCING OR ELIMINATING THE USE OF TRANS FATS 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 fats that result 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 fats in restaurants; and

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26           WHEREAS, similar legislation banning the use of trans fats  
27 was approved in Philadelphia; and

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29           WHEREAS, other cities throughout the country including  
30 Chicago and Seattle are also considering a ban on oils  
31 containing trans fats for large chain restaurants; and  
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1           WHEREAS, the state of Massachusetts is considering  
2 legislation to ban restaurants statewide from preparing food  
3 with trans fats; and  
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5           WHEREAS, major food chains such as Kraft, Kentucky Fried  
6 Chicken, McDonalds, Wendy's, Taco Bell, and the Walt Disney  
7 Company have chosen to reduce or remove trans fats from their  
8 products by a specified date; now, therefore,  
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10          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
12 Session of 2008, that the Department of Health is requested to  
13 determine the feasibility of reducing or eliminating the use of  
14 trans fats in food preparation and food service by Hawaii's  
15 restaurant industry; and  
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17          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
18 requested to work with the Hawaii Restaurant Association and the  
19 Hawaii Food Industry Association by surveying its members  
20 concerning reducing or eliminating trans fats in their food  
21 preparation or food service activities; and  
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23          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that  
24 the survey address issues such as consumer trends, costs and  
25 availability of trans fat-free cooking oils, and economic,  
26 health, education, and other concerns related to trans fat-free  
27 food; and  
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29          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
30 requested to submit a report of its findings and  
31 recommendations, including proposed legislation, if necessary,  
32 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
33 convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and  
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35          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the



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

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OFFERED BY:

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JAN 14 2008

