

FEB 06 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN FOR INCREASING AID AND ASSISTANCE TO ORGANIC FARMERS.

1 WHEREAS, organic farming practices are beneficial to human
2 health and towards the preservation of environmental quality;
3 and

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5 WHEREAS, organic farming practices emphasize sustainability
6 and enhance soil health; and

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8 WHEREAS, organic farming promotes the practice of growing
9 agricultural products without the use of toxic substances, such
10 as pesticides and fertilizers; and

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12 WHEREAS, organic farming is an important building block for
13 maintaining and preserving the State's scenic and environmental
14 resources; and

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16 WHEREAS, organic farming is also an essential element in
17 creating economic viability and preserving the quality of life
18 in rural and agricultural communities; and

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20 WHEREAS, organic farming has gained in popularity in the
21 State; and

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23 WHEREAS, local organic production, processing, and
24 distribution cannot at this time meet the local demand for
25 organic products; and

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27 WHEREAS, the importation of organic products from the
28 mainland and other countries can result in an increased number
29 of invasive species in Hawaii; now, therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
33 that the Department of Agriculture is urged to develop a plan to
34 increase aid and assistance to organic farmers; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
2 is urged to increase cooperation with the Hawaii Cooperative of
3 Organic Farmers and the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
6 is urged to employ all resources available including resources
7 available through the United States Department of Agriculture
8 for organic farming in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of
9 2008, P.L. 110-246; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
13 Agriculture, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau
14 Federation, and the President of the Board of Directors of the
15 Hawaii Cooperative of Organic Farmers.

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OFFERED BY: 

