

FEB 16 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO
EXPAND A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM STATEWIDE.

1 WHEREAS, according to the National Survey of Children's
2 Health, twenty-eight percent of school-aged children in Hawaii
3 are either overweight or obese, and one in every three children
4 born in the year 2000 in the United States will develop
5 diabetes; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the 2003 Food Security Task Force report published
8 by the state Office of Planning noted that over nineteen percent
9 of Hawaii residents live in food insecure households of which
10 most have school-aged children residing; and

11
12 WHEREAS, many children in Hawaii have limited exposure to
13 the wide range of locally produced healthy food available and do
14 not know where the food they eat comes from or how their food
15 was produced or prepared; and

16
17 WHEREAS, this limited exposure and the mass availability of
18 "junk food" leads to children being susceptible to the
19 ubiquitous marketing of "junk food"; and

20
21 WHEREAS, the addition of locally produced fruits and
22 vegetables in school meals will expose Hawaii's school children
23 to high quality, local produce; and

24
25 WHEREAS, farm-to-school programs, such as planting and
26 tending school gardens, have proven successful in supplying high
27 quality food and provides students with knowledge to enhance
28 their educational experience and cultivate long-term healthy
29 eating habits; and

30
31 WHEREAS, there are several successful alternative farm-to-
32 school programs in Hawaii through public-private partnerships



1 and strong support from local school administrators, food
2 service managers, teachers, parents, and students; and
3

4 WHEREAS, these programs rely on external support from non-
5 profit organizations, such as the Kokua Hawai'i Foundation's
6 'AINA In Schools (Actively Integrating Nutrition and Agriculture
7 In Schools), MA'O Organic Farms, The Kohala Center through its
8 Hawaii School Garden Hui, and the Ulupono Initiative; now,
9 therefore,
10

11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
13 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
14 Health through its Healthy Hawaii Initiative is requested to
15 convene a School Gardens Task Force to determine how best to
16 expand a school garden program statewide; and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of
19 representatives from the following entities:
20

- 21 (1) The Department of Health's Healthy Hawaii Initiative;
- 22
- 23 (2) The Department of Agriculture;
- 24
- 25 (3) The Department of Education;
- 26
- 27 (4) The University of Hawaii College of Tropical
28 Agriculture and Human Resources;
- 29
- 30 (5) The University of Hawaii Community Colleges culinary
31 arts programs;
- 32
- 33 (6) The Kokua Hawai'i Foundation;
- 34
- 35 (7) The Kohala Center Hawai'i Island School Garden Network;
- 36
- 37 (8) The Ulupono Initiative;
- 38
- 39 (9) MA'O Organic Farms; and
- 40
- 41 (10) The Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; and
42



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report to the
 2 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 3 the Regular Session of 2013 on its findings and recommendations,
 4 including any recommendations for legislation and funding, if
 5 necessary; and

6
 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
 9 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, Superintendent of
 10 Education, Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
 11 Resources, Vice President for the Community Colleges of the
 12 University of Hawaii System, Kokua Hawai'i Foundation, The Kohala
 13 Center, Ulupono Initiative, MA'O Organic Farms, and Hawaii
 14 Association of Independent Schools.
 15
 16
 17

OFFERED BY:

Theranne Chun Oakland

Clarence K. Mikiha

Randy de Bab
and Zukunagh

Jill

Michelle Kiani

D

April y de

Maitik

T.S.O.D. Jk

