

MAR 11 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS "FARM TO SCHOOL
MONTH" IN HAWAII TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL
INITIATIVES IN HAWAII'S SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, research and experience in schools across the
2 country are increasingly demonstrating that school children
3 significantly increase their consumption of fruits and
4 vegetables when given a variety of choices in school; and
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6 WHEREAS, providing fresh local produce in schools benefits
7 local farmers and school children; and
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9 WHEREAS, farm to school initiatives are a driving force
10 behind food system change in Hawaii; and
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12 WHEREAS, farm to school initiatives connect schools and
13 local farms with the objective of serving healthy meals in
14 school cafeterias, improving student nutrition, and lowering
15 childhood obesity; and
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17 WHEREAS, farm to school initiatives provide students with
18 access to fresh, local foods, as well as educational
19 opportunities, including school gardens and farm field trips;
20 and
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22 WHEREAS, farm to school initiatives enrich the connection
23 that the community has with healthy food and local food
24 producers; and
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26 WHEREAS, Act 218, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, invested in
27 developing a coordinated statewide initiative to enrich
28 connections between the healthy choices of locally grown food,
29 keiki, schools, and farming communities; and
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31 WHEREAS, designating a "Farm to School Month" is an
32 opportunity to highlight the State's farm to school programs,



1 and to highlight and launch initiatives for our developing farm
2 to school programs; and
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4 WHEREAS, in 2010, the United States House of
5 Representatives passed a resolution designating October as the
6 "National Farm to School Month"; and
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8 WHEREAS, during the "National Farm to School Month",
9 schools across the country celebrate local food served in their
10 cafeterias, schoolyard gardens, and the food and agricultural
11 enrichment occurring in the classrooms; and
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13 WHEREAS, the designation of the month of October of each
14 year as "Farm to School Month" in Hawaii will support farm to
15 school initiatives in our schools, and empower children and
16 their families to make informed food choices while strengthening
17 the local economy and contributing to the community; now,
18 therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the month of October
23 of each year be designated as "Farm to School Month" to
24 strengthen and support farm to school initiatives in Hawaii's
25 schools; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
29 Superintendent of Education, Chairperson of the Board of
30 Agriculture, Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa College
31 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and Hawaii Farm to
32 School and School Garden Hui.
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OFFERED BY:

Shiranne Chun Abdulal

