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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH THE  
AGRICULTURE 2030 INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND A FARM TO PLATE  
PROGRAM IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, there are historic and recent threats to the  
2 future of agriculture in Hawaii, including the loss of sugar and  
3 pineapple plantations and dairy farms, rising energy and feed  
4 costs, the volatility of commodity markets, mainland and global  
5 competition, and climate change, especially for diversified and  
6 specialty niche farms including organic farm operations; and  
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8 WHEREAS, Hawaii spends roughly \$3,000,000,000 on importing  
9 eighty-five to ninety percent of its food annually; and  
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11 WHEREAS, increasing agricultural economic development in  
12 Hawaii will address some of the threats that are affecting the  
13 agricultural sector in the State; and  
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15 WHEREAS, recognizing that the agricultural sector is an  
16 important part of Hawaii's economy, it is imperative to create  
17 more jobs in the food and farm economy; and  
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19 WHEREAS, improving access to healthy local foods will not  
20 only benefit the State financially but will also benefit the  
21 residents of Hawaii; and  
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23 WHEREAS, biosecurity plays an important role in the food  
24 and farm sectors, and improving biosecurity is a priority of the  
25 State; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture should work toward  
28 strengthening collaboration and links among producers,  
29 processors, and markets; and  
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1 WHEREAS, recognizing that the future of agriculture in  
2 Hawaii is being jeopardized by a variety of factors, improving  
3 the food and farm sector in Hawaii is paramount to economic  
4 development of the State; now, therefore,  
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the  
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
9 Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Business,  
10 Economic Development, and Tourism, and members of the  
11 agricultural industry, is requested to establish the agriculture  
12 2030 investment program to increase agricultural economic  
13 development through strategic planning and the creation of  
14 programs such as a state farm to plate program; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program goals of the  
17 agriculture 2030 investment program are to:  
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- 19 (1) Increase economic development in Hawaii's food and  
20 farm sector;  
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- 22 (2) Create jobs in the food and farm economy;  
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- 24 (3) Improve access to healthy local foods; and  
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- 26 (4) Improve biosecurity; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to accomplish the  
29 goals of the agriculture 2030 investment program, the Department  
30 of Agriculture is requested to:  
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- 32 (1) Create an advisory panel with representatives of the  
33 agricultural and business communities;  
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- 35 (2) Hire or assign staff, or enter into contracts with the  
36 University of Hawaii, for various tasks such as the  
37 collection of data;  
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- 39 (3) Seek and accept funds from private and public  
40 entities; and  
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1 (4) Utilize technical assistance, loans, grants, or other  
2 means to advance the goals of the program; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
5 is further requested to establish a farm to plate program to  
6 ensure access to local and healthy food in the State and seek  
7 grant funding to support farm to plate direct marketing,  
8 including marketing of farmers' markets, community supported  
9 agriculture operations, and regional community food hubs; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
12 submit an annual report to the Legislature no later than twenty  
13 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019  
14 regarding its strategic plan on the establishment of the  
15 agriculture 2030 investment program; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
19 Board of Agriculture and Director of Business, Economic  
20 Development, and Tourism.

