

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS TO EXTEND THE LEASES OF THE HAWAII KAI FARMERS

WHEREAS, Hawaii Kai farmers were part of developer Henry Kaiser's plan when he first designed Hawaii Kai as a bedroom community to have its own food basket and set aside ~80 acres for farmers under lease from Kamehameha Schools / Bishop Estate; and

WHEREAS, all the farm leases will expire in July 2025, just two years from now; and

WHEREAS, most Hawaii Kai farmers in Kamilonui Valley are in their seventies and make modest incomes; and

WHEREAS, food resiliency and agriculture are two priorities of our State Legislature, both of which our Hawaii Kai farmers positively contribute to; and

WHEREAS, the expiration of these leases could put an end to a portion of Hawaii Kai's initial vision as well as change the identity of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Kai community is very concerned about the future of the Hawaii Kai farmers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that Kamehameha Schools is urged to extend the leases of the farmers of Hawaii Kai; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kamehameha Schools is also urged to meet with the community in a townhall setting to ascertain the community's opinion on the future of Kamilonui Valley; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Kamehameha Schools and the Kamilonui Valley Farmers Association.

OFFERED BY

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