
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCORPORATE MORE PLANT-BASED OPTIONS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, a diet that contains lots of fruits and vegetables
2 is strongly associated with a reduced risk of some cancers and
3 heart disease; and

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5 WHEREAS, diets with more vegetables are associated with a
6 lower body mass index (a measure of body fat); and

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8 WHEREAS, plant-based diets are generally rich in fiber,
9 phytonutrients, antioxidants, vitamins and minerals, which in
10 turn strengthens the immune system and slows down the aging
11 process; and

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13 WHEREAS, five diet-related chronic diseases cost the U.S.
14 economy a staggering \$1 trillion each year as an estimate of
15 direct medical costs and the indirect impact of productivity
16 losses due to illness and premature death associated with
17 chronic heart disease and stroke, obesity, cancer, diabetes, and
18 osteoporosis; and

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20 WHEREAS, Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, requires
21 thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of
22 locally sourced products by 2030; and

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24 WHEREAS, increased use of locally grown agricultural
25 products, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, and poultry products
26 in Hawaii schools and other public institutions will truly be a
27 significant step towards increasing Hawaii's levels of self-
28 sufficiency; and

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H.R. NO. 81

1 WHEREAS, learning where food comes from is an important
 2 part of Hawaii's children's education. Farm to School involves
 3 more than just learning the basics of food production, it
 4 provides the opportunity for Hawaii's children to understand and
 5 appreciate the importance of agriculture; and

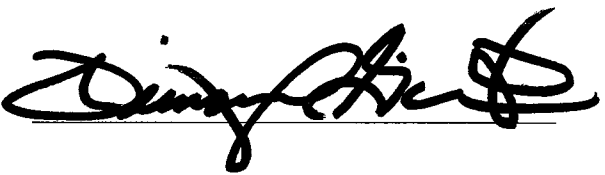
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 7 WHEREAS, increased local fruits and vegetables will also
 8 support the growth of agriculture in our states and help
 9 diversify our economy from its dependence on tourism; now,
 10 therefore,

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 12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 13 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 14 Session of 2023, Department of Education is urged to incorporate
 15 more plant-based options in local schools; and

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 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Department of Education is requested
 18 to take actions to increase the procurement of fresh fruits and
 19 vegetables from local farmers; and

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 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 22 Resolution be transmitted to Governor, Chairperson of Board of
 23 Education, the Superintendent of the Department of Education,
 24 Executive Director of the State Public Charter School
 25 Commission, President of the Hawaii State Teachers Association,
 26 Chairman of the Department of Health and the Chairman of the
 27 Department of Agriculture.

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OFFERED BY: 

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