
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that supporting local
2 agriculture and strengthening local food systems are a matter of
3 statewide concern that can improve the resilience of Hawaii's
4 economy, environment, culture, and public health. The
5 legislature further finds that setting clear and ambitious
6 target goals for the purchase of locally grown food ensures that
7 the State plays its role in supporting local farmers and
8 guarantees that revenue derived from local produce remains in
9 the State and feeds local people. Act 175, Session Laws of
10 Hawaii 2021, established a programmatic goal for the department
11 of education to provide a minimum of thirty per cent locally
12 sourced food in Hawaii public school meals by 2030. In
13 addition, the legislature also passed Act 176, Session Laws of
14 Hawaii 2021, and Act 144, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, which
15 established five-year benchmarks ensuring a certain percentage
16 of produce that is purchased by the department of health,



1 department of public safety, department of defense, and
2 university of Hawaii system is locally grown.

3 The legislature also finds that the existing goals set
4 different standards for various state departments.
5 Specifically, the programmatic goal for the department of
6 education is to locally source at least thirty per cent of food
7 served in public schools by 2030, which is higher than other
8 state departments. The legislature believes that the goals to
9 provide locally-sourced food should increase at a consistent and
10 predictable pace across all pertinent state departments to avoid
11 any confusion between departments, however the legislature does
12 recognize that benchmark goals for certain departments should be
13 assessed on a more frequent basis than the department of
14 education.

15 The purpose of this Act is to resolve some of the
16 discrepancies between the locally sourced food benchmarks for
17 the department of education and those of other state entities.

18 SECTION 2. Section 27-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

20 "(a) The department of education, department of health,
21 department of corrections and rehabilitation, department of



1 defense, and University of Hawaii system shall each ensure that
2 a certain percentage of the food purchased for public schools,
3 youth campuses, public hospitals, public prisons, and any
4 purchases made directly by the University of Hawaii for use in
5 its academic programs, as applicable, is fresh local
6 agricultural products and local value-added, processed,
7 agricultural, or food products, as follows:

8 (1) By January 1, 2025, fresh local agricultural products
9 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
10 food products shall constitute a minimum of ten per
11 cent of the total food purchased during each calendar
12 year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
13 provided that the department of education shall be
14 exempt from the requirements of this paragraph;

15 (2) By January 1, 2030, fresh local agricultural products
16 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
17 food products shall constitute a minimum of eighteen
18 per cent of the total food purchased during each
19 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
20 food cost; provided that the department of education
21 shall be exempt from the requirements of this



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1 paragraph and instead shall be subject to the
2 requirements in section 302A-405.6(a)(1);

3 (3) By January 1, 2035, fresh local agricultural products
4 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
5 food products shall constitute a minimum of twenty-six
6 per cent of the total food purchased during each
7 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
8 food cost; provided that the department of education
9 shall be exempt from the requirements of this
10 paragraph;

11 (4) By January 1, 2040, fresh local agricultural products
12 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
13 food products shall constitute a minimum of thirty-
14 four per cent of the total food purchased during each
15 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
16 food cost;

17 (5) By January 1, 2045, fresh local agricultural products
18 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
19 food products shall constitute a minimum of forty-two
20 per cent of the total food purchased during each



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1 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
2 food cost; and

3 (6) By January 1, 2050, fresh local agricultural products
4 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
5 food products shall constitute a minimum of fifty per
6 cent of the total food purchased during each calendar
7 year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost."

8 SECTION 3. Section 302A-405.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as
10 follows:

11 "~~[+]§302A-405.6[+]~~ **Farm to school meals.** (a) ~~[By 2030,~~
12 ~~the department shall meet the local farm to school meal goal~~
13 ~~that thirty per cent of food served in public schools shall~~
14 ~~consist of locally sourced products, as measured by the~~
15 ~~percentage of the total cost of food.] The department shall~~
16 ensure that a certain percentage of the food purchased for
17 public schools and youth campuses is fresh local agricultural
18 products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food
19 products, as follows:

20 (1) By January 1, 2030, fresh local agricultural products
21 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or



1 food products shall constitute a minimum of thirty per
2 cent of the total food purchased during each calendar
3 year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
4 (2) By January 1, 2040, fresh local agricultural products
5 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
6 food products shall constitute a minimum of thirty-
7 four per cent of the total food purchased during each
8 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
9 food cost;
10 (3) By January 1, 2045, fresh local agricultural products
11 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
12 food products shall constitute a minimum of forty-two
13 per cent of the total food purchased during each
14 calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total
15 food cost; and
16 (4) By January 1, 2050, fresh local agricultural products
17 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
18 food products shall constitute a minimum of fifty per
19 cent of the total food purchased during each calendar
20 year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost."



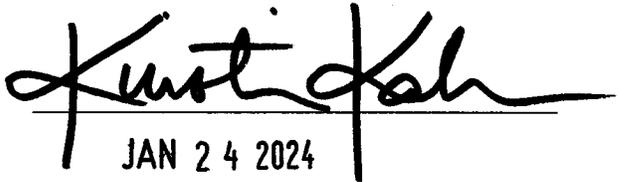
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1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:


JAN 24 2024



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Report Title:

Food Contracts; Local Agricultural Products; Benchmarks

Description:

Resolves some of the discrepancies between the locally sourced food benchmarks for the department of education and those of other state entities.

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