

MAR 08 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT SERVE MEALS TO OFFER PLANT-BASED MEAL OPTIONS PRIORITIZING INGREDIENTS FROM LOCALLY SOURCED AND LOCALLY FARMED PRODUCTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State recognizes the importance of promoting
2 healthy dietary choices among its residents; and
3

4 WHEREAS, a plant-based diet can reduce the chances of
5 developing diabetes, lower cholesterol, and decrease the risk of
6 cardiovascular disease; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Department of Education plays a crucial role
9 in shaping the lifelong eating habits and preferences of Hawaii
10 residents by exposing youths to new and healthy foods during the
11 school day; and
12

13 WHEREAS, encouraging the adoption of plant-based meal
14 options in public schools and charter schools will promote the
15 well-being of students and help build a foundation for a healthy
16 lifestyle; and
17

18 WHEREAS, incorporating locally sourced and locally farmed
19 ingredients into school meals will also support the State's
20 agricultural industry, help fund local jobs, and potentially
21 enhance the nutritional quality of meals through the use of
22 fresher ingredients; now, therefore,
23

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,
26 that the Department of Education is urged to require all public
27 schools and charter schools that serve meals to offer plant-
28 based meal options, prioritizing ingredients from locally
29 sourced and locally farmed products; and
30



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
3 Education and Superintendent of Education.
4
5
6

OFFERED BY:

Mike Hubbard

