

JAN 17 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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 matters 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 goals
6 for the purchase of locally grown food ensures that the State
7 plays its role in supporting local farmers and guarantees that
8 revenue derived from local produce remains in the State and
9 feeds local people. Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021,
10 established a programmatic goal for the department of education
11 to provide a minimum of thirty per cent locally sourced food in
12 Hawaii public school meals by 2030. Act 176, Session Laws of
13 Hawaii 2021, also established five-year benchmarks ensuring a
14 certain percentage of locally grown produce is purchased by
15 state departments.

16 The legislature also finds that existing goals have
17 established different standards for various state departments.



1 Specifically, the department of education's programmatic goal to
2 locally source at least thirty per cent of food served in public
3 schools by 2030 is a higher threshold than other state
4 departments. Furthermore, the department of education's
5 progress towards its goal suggests that other state departments
6 should be held to the same standard for the benefit of the
7 people of Hawaii. The legislature believes that the goals to
8 provide locally sourced food should be consistent across all
9 pertinent state departments to avoid any confusion between
10 departments.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 12 (1) Increase the percentages of local agricultural
13 products that certain state departments and the
14 university of Hawaii system are required to purchase
15 by certain deadlines;
- 16 (2) Expand the annual reporting requirements to include
17 total spending by certain market channels;
- 18 (3) Require each relevant state department and the
19 university of Hawaii system to include a corrective
20 action plan in its respective report to the
21 legislature, should it not meet its benchmark;



1 (4) Repeal the separate benchmark for the department of
2 education that requires thirty per cent of food served
3 in public schools to consist of locally sourced
4 products by 2030; and

5 (5) Appropriate funds for the establishment of a farm-to-
6 state liaison within the office of the governor to
7 facilitate reporting requirements and procurement of
8 locally grown food.

9 SECTION 2. Section 27-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

11 "(a) The department of education, department of health,
12 department of corrections and rehabilitation, department of
13 defense, and [~~University~~] university of Hawaii system shall each
14 ensure that a certain percentage of the food purchased for
15 public schools, youth campuses, public hospitals, public
16 prisons, and any purchases made directly by the [~~University~~]
17 university of Hawaii for use in its academic programs, as
18 applicable, is fresh local agricultural products and local
19 value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products, as
20 follows:



1 (1) By January 1, 2025, fresh local agricultural products
2 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
3 food products shall constitute a minimum of ten per
4 cent of the total food purchased during each calendar
5 year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;

6 (2) By January 1, 2027, fresh local agricultural products
7 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
8 food products shall constitute a minimum of
9 twenty-five per cent of the total food purchased
10 during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent
11 of total food cost;

12 [~~2~~] (3) By January 1, 2030, fresh local agricultural
13 products and local value-added, processed,
14 agricultural, or food products shall constitute a
15 minimum of [~~eighteen~~] thirty per cent of the total
16 food purchased during each calendar year, as measured
17 by the per cent of total food cost;

18 [~~3~~] (4) By January 1, 2035, fresh local agricultural
19 products and local value-added, processed,
20 agricultural, or food products shall constitute a
21 minimum of [~~twenty-six~~] thirty-five per cent of the



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

3 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) By January 1, 2040, fresh local agricultural
4 products and local value-added, processed,
5 agricultural, or food products shall constitute a
6 minimum of ~~[thirty-four]~~ forty per cent of the total
7 food purchased during each calendar year, as measured
8 by the per cent of total food cost;

9 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) By January 1, 2045, fresh local agricultural
10 products and local value-added, processed,
11 agricultural, or food products shall constitute a
12 minimum of ~~[forty-two]~~ forty-five per cent of the
13 total food purchased during each calendar year, as
14 measured by the per cent of total food cost; and

15 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) By January 1, 2050, fresh local agricultural
16 products and local value-added, processed,
17 agricultural, or food products shall constitute a
18 minimum of fifty per cent of the total food purchased
19 during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent
20 of total food cost.



1 (b) The department of education, department of health,
2 department of corrections and rehabilitation, department of
3 defense, and [~~University~~] university of Hawaii system shall each
4 submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days
5 prior to the convening of each regular session on progress made
6 toward meeting the benchmarks described in subsection (a),
7 including:

8 (1) The total cost of food purchased during the calendar
9 year preceding that regular session, or in the case of
10 the department of education, during the school year
11 preceding that regular session;

12 (2) The percentage of the total cost of food purchased
13 during the calendar year preceding that regular
14 session, accounted for by the total cost of fresh
15 local agricultural products and local value-added,
16 processed, agricultural, or food products purchased,
17 or in the case of the department of education, during
18 the school year preceding that regular session; [~~and~~]

19 (3) Total spending by the following market channels:

20 (A) Directly from a farmer, fisher, rancher, or food
21 processor;



1 (B) A food hub or farmer cooperative focused on local
2 sourcing; and

3 (C) A specialty or broadline distributor; and

4 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) If the department or [University] university of
5 Hawaii system did not meet the relevant benchmark
6 described in subsection (a), an explanation of why the
7 department or [University] university of Hawaii system
8 did not meet that benchmark~~[-]~~ and a corrective action
9 plan with specific steps and deadlines to meet the
10 benchmark."

11 SECTION 3. Section 302A-405.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 repealed.

13 ~~["[**S302A-405.6**] **Farm to school meals.** (a) By 2030, the~~
14 ~~department shall meet the local farm to school meal goal that~~
15 ~~thirty per cent of food served in public schools shall consist~~
16 ~~of locally sourced products, as measured by the percentage of~~
17 ~~the total cost of food.~~

18 ~~(b) The department shall submit an annual report to the~~
19 ~~legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of~~
20 ~~each regular session, beginning with the regular session of~~
21 ~~2022, containing the following information:~~



- 1 ~~(1) The status of the department's progress in meeting the~~
2 ~~local farm to school meal goal;~~
- 3 ~~(2) The percentage of food served in public schools that~~
4 ~~consists of locally sourced products, by county, as~~
5 ~~measured by the percentage of the total cost of food;~~
- 6 ~~(3) The costs associated with the farm to school meals~~
7 ~~program and any savings realized;~~
- 8 ~~(4) A list of all large purchases of locally sourced~~
9 ~~products and the identity of the seller;~~
- 10 ~~(5) A list of meals on a school menu consisting of the~~
11 ~~largest percentage of locally sourced products, as~~
12 ~~measured by the percentage of the total cost of food;~~
- 13 ~~(6) The percentage of fresh food served, by county, as~~
14 ~~measured by the percentage of the total cost of food;~~
- 15 ~~(7) The percentage of processed food served, by county, as~~
16 ~~measured by the percentage of the total cost of food;~~
- 17 ~~(8) A description of the training conducted to prepare~~
18 ~~cafeteria staff for cooking meals from scratch; and~~
- 19 ~~(9) The percentage of locally sourced products purchased~~
20 ~~from the department's largest distributors, as~~
21 ~~measured by the percentage of the total cost of food.~~



~~(c) For the purposes of this section:~~

~~"Fresh local agricultural products" means fruits, vegetables, nuts, coffee, eggs, poultry and poultry products, livestock and livestock products, milk and milk products, aquacultural and maricultural products, and horticultural products that are one hundred per cent grown, raised, and harvested in Hawaii.~~

~~"Local value added processed, agricultural, or food products" means at least fifty-one per cent of the product's primary agricultural product shall be grown, raised, and harvested in Hawaii.~~

~~"Locally sourced products" means fresh local agricultural products or local value added processed, agricultural, or food products.~~

~~"Primary agricultural product" means the major agricultural product in a processed or value added agricultural or food product."]~~

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal



1 year 2026-2027 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent
2 (1.0 FTE) permanent farm-to-state liaison position within the
3 office of the governor to facilitate reporting requirements and
4 procurement of locally grown food to meet the requirements of
5 section 27-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

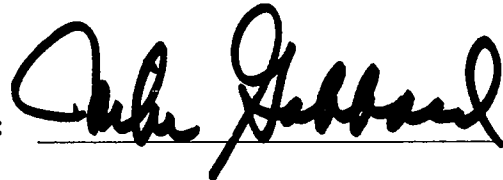
6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
7 the governor for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025;
11 provided that section 3 shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

12

INTRODUCED BY: _____



Report Title:

Food Contracts; Local Agricultural Products; Benchmarks;
Reporting Requirements; Farm-to-State Liaison Position;
Appropriations

Description:

Increases the percentages of local agricultural products that certain departments are required to purchase by certain deadlines. Expands annual reporting requirements to include the total spending by certain market channels. Requires certain departments and the University of Hawaii System to include a corrective action plan in their respective reports to the Legislature, should they not meet their benchmarks. Repeals the separate benchmark for the Department of Education that requires thirty per cent of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products by 2030. Appropriates funds for the establishment of a farm-to-state liaison position within the Office of the Governor.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

