

JAN 21 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOCAL PURCHASING PREFERENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§27- Contracts for natural landscaping materials;
5 percentage to be from within the State. (a) The department of
6 education, department of health, department of corrections and
7 rehabilitation, department of defense, department of accounting
8 and general services, and university of Hawaii system shall each
9 ensure that a certain percentage of the natural landscaping
10 materials purchased for public schools, youth campuses, public
11 hospitals, public prisons, and public facilities and any
12 purchases made directly by the university of Hawaii for use in
13 its academic programs is as follows:

14 (1) By January 1, 2028, local natural landscaping
15 materials shall constitute a minimum of ten per cent
16 of the total natural landscaping materials purchased



1 during each year, as measured by the per cent of total
2 natural landscaping materials cost;



1 (2) The percentage of the total cost of natural
2 landscaping materials purchased during the year
3 preceding that regular session, accounted for by the
4 total cost of local natural landscaping materials
5 purchased; and
6 (3) If the department or university of Hawaii system did
7 not meet the relevant benchmark described in
8 subsection (a), an explanation of why the department
9 or university of Hawaii system did not meet that
10 benchmark.

11 The report may be combined with the report required under
12 section 27-8(b).

13 (c) As used in this section:
14 "Local natural landscaping materials" means natural
15 landscaping materials, of which more than fifty per cent of the
16 wholesale value is added by manufacture, processing, production,
17 or harvesting in Hawaii.

18 "Natural landscaping materials" means materials used for
19 landscaping, of which at least fifty per cent by weight is
20 derived from previously living matter. "Natural landscaping
21 materials" includes wood mulch and compost.



1 "Year" shall have the same meaning as in section 27-8."

2 SECTION 2. Section 27-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 **"§27-8 Contracts for food; percentage to be grown within**
5 **the State.** (a) The department of education, department of
6 health, department of corrections and rehabilitation, department
7 of defense, and university of Hawaii system shall each ensure
8 that a certain percentage of the food purchased for public
9 schools, youth campuses, public hospitals, public prisons, and
10 any purchases made directly by the university of Hawaii for use
11 in its academic programs, as applicable, is fresh local
12 agricultural products and local value-added, processed,
13 agricultural, or food products, as follows:

14 (1) By January 1, 2025, fresh local agricultural products
15 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
16 food products shall constitute a minimum of ten per
17 cent of the total food purchased during each
18 [calendar] year, as measured by the per cent of total
19 food cost; provided that the department of education
20 shall be exempt from the requirements of this
21 paragraph;



1 (2) By January 1, 2030, fresh local agricultural products
2 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
3 food products shall constitute a minimum of eighteen
4 per cent of the total food purchased during each
5 [calendar] year, as measured by the per cent of total
6 food cost; provided that the department of education
7 shall be exempt from the requirements of this
8 paragraph and instead shall be subject to the
9 requirements in section 302A-405.6(a);

10 (3) By January 1, 2035, fresh local agricultural products
11 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
12 food products shall constitute a minimum of twenty-six
13 per cent of the total food purchased during each
14 [calendar] year, as measured by the per cent of total
15 food cost; provided that the department of education
16 shall be exempt from the requirements of this
17 paragraph;

18 (4) By January 1, 2040, fresh local agricultural products
19 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
20 food products shall constitute a minimum of
21 thirty-four per cent of the total food purchased



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

9 (6) By January 1, 2050, fresh local agricultural products
10 and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or
11 food products shall constitute a minimum of fifty per
12 cent of the total food purchased during each
13 [calendar] year, as measured by the per cent of total
14 food cost.

15 (b) The department of education, department of health,
16 department of corrections and rehabilitation, department of
17 defense, and [University] university of Hawaii system shall each
18 submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days
19 prior to the convening of each regular session on progress made
20 toward meeting the benchmarks described in subsection (a),
21 including:



1 (1) The total cost of food purchased during the [calendar]
2 year preceding that regular session[, or in the case
3 of the department of education, during the school year
4 preceding that regular session];

5 (2) The percentage of the total cost of food purchased
6 during the [calendar] year preceding that regular
7 session, accounted for by the total cost of fresh
8 local agricultural products and local value-added,
9 processed, agricultural, or food products purchased[,
10 or in the case of the department of education, during
11 the school year preceding that regular session]; and

12 (3) If the department or [University] university of Hawaii
13 system did not meet the relevant benchmark described
14 in subsection (a), an explanation of why the
15 department or [University] university of Hawaii system
16 did not meet that benchmark.

17 The report may be combined with the report required under
18 section 27- (b).

19 (c) As used in this section:

20 "Fresh local agricultural products" means fruits,

21 vegetables, nuts, coffee, eggs, poultry and poultry products,



1 livestock and livestock products, milk and milk products,
2 aquacultural and maricultural products, and horticultural
3 products, that are one hundred per cent grown, raised, and
4 harvested in Hawaii.

5 "Local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food
6 products" means a product for which at least fifty-one per cent
7 of its primary agricultural product is grown, raised, and
8 harvested in Hawaii.

9 "Primary agricultural product" means the major agricultural
10 product in a processed or value-added agricultural or food
11 product.

12 "Year" means calendar year; provided that for the
13 department of education, "year" means school year."

14 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

17

INTRODUCED BY:

Lyn DeCorte



S.B. NO. 2258

Report Title:

DOE; DOH; DCR; DOD; DAGS; UH; Local Preference; Landscaping Materials; Mulch; Compost; Soil

Description:

Gradually requires that by 2032, 30% of natural landscaping materials purchased by certain departments be purchased from sources that manufacture, process, produce, or harvest the natural landscaping materials in Hawaii. Applies to the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department of Defense, Department of Accounting and General Services, and University of Hawaii.

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

