
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING CERTAIN STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES, IN COORDINATION
WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, TO DEVELOP A
COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

1 WHEREAS, according to the *State of Food Insecurity in*
2 *Hawai'i 2024-2025* report compiled by Hawaii Foodbank and its
3 affiliate foodbanks statewide, approximately thirty-two percent
4 of the State's households experienced food insecurity, meaning
5 they lacked consistent access to sufficient, nutritious, and
6 affordable food, and more than one in five households reported
7 "very low food security", with members skipping meals or going
8 entire days without eating due to lack of resources; and
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10 WHEREAS, according to the report, among households with
11 children, thirty-four percent experienced food insecurity, an
12 increase from prior reporting, indicating that more than one in
13 three families struggle to reliably feed their keiki and
14 demonstrating a worsening trend among families with children;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, young adults (ages 18-29) and households relying
18 on federal nutrition assistance were also reported to have faced
19 particularly high rates of food insecurity; and
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21 WHEREAS, food insecurity disproportionately impacts Native
22 Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Filipino, and other historically
23 marginalized communities in the State, who face higher rates of
24 poverty, limited access to healthy and culturally relevant
25 foods, and systemic barriers in both urban and rural areas; and
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27 WHEREAS, these populations often experience compounded
28 challenges from geographic isolation, intergenerational
29 inequities, and are more impacted by processed foods, climate
30 change, and economic disruptions, underscoring the need for
31 targeted strategies that honor cultural practices, support
32 community-led food systems, and promote equitable access to
33 nutritious and locally grown foods; and



1
2 WHEREAS, food insecurity imposes serious consequences on
3 health, dignity, community resilience, and long-term economic
4 stability, including increased risk of diet-related illness,
5 developmental and educational impairments for keiki,
6 mental-health stresses, and higher public-health costs, making
7 food security a matter of public welfare, equity, and justice;
8 now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that appropriate state agencies,
13 including but not limited to the Hawaii Interagency Food Systems
14 Working Group; County Agencies; Department of Agriculture and
15 Biosecurity; Department of Business, Economic Development and
16 Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Department of
17 Human Services; Department of Health; Department of
18 Transportation; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; and Office
19 of Hawaiian Affairs, in coordination with community-based
20 organizations, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander leaders,
21 food access organizations, food security coalitions, and other
22 relevant stakeholders, are requested to develop a comprehensive
23 statewide food security strategy; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the statewide food security
26 strategy is requested to be data-driven, equity-focused, and at
27 a minimum:
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- 29 (1) Assess barriers to food access across the State's
30 diverse communities, including economic, geographic,
31 cultural, and programmatic barriers, and anticipate
32 future food-security needs;
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34 (2) Analyze economic, climatic, and demographic trends
35 affecting food availability, affordability, and
36 access, including the impacts of climate change,
37 natural disasters, and supply-chain disruptions;
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39 (3) Identify win-win strategies that both decrease food
40 insecurity and boost local agricultural production;
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