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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PETITION THE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ADDRESS THE  
DELAY IN UPDATING SCHOOL LUNCH NUTRITION STANDARDS.

1           WHEREAS, by law, the United States Department of  
2 Agriculture is required to update the School Nutrition Standards  
3 to be in accordance with the latest version of the Dietary  
4 Guidelines for Americans; and

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6           WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture did  
7 not release their updated requirements to the School Nutrition  
8 Standards to be in accordance with the 2020-2025 Dietary  
9 Guidelines for Americans until 2024; and

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11           WHEREAS, this has brought many questions and comments by  
12 school food service directors, as this change was set to fully  
13 go into effect in the 2025-2026 school year and extend to school  
14 years beyond; and

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16           WHEREAS, despite these recent changes, the newest Dietary  
17 Guidelines for Americans which covers 2025-2030 has been  
18 released, indicating that there will be more changes to come  
19 from the United States Department of Agriculture; and

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21           WHEREAS, during a session hosted by the United States  
22 Department of Agriculture, the Acting Associate Administrator  
23 for Child Nutrition Programs and Food and Nutrition Services  
24 Chief Policy Advisor could not give much information about the  
25 changes to come; and

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27           WHEREAS, this lag in updating nutrition standards poses a  
28 serious issue for Hawaii public schools to develop school lunch  
29 menus, as well as to fulfill the legislative mandate to source  
30 thirty per cent of school food locally by 2030; and



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WHEREAS, in 2024, only 5.43% of school food spending went toward Hawai'i-grown products which is a significant difference in percentage from the 2030 Hawai'i's Farm to School goal; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the Senate concurring, that Hawaii's congressional delegation is requested to petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the delay in updating school lunch nutrition standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation and Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

OFFERED BY:

  
MAR 12 2026

