
HOUSE 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
31



H.R. NO. 52

1 WHEREAS, in 2024, only 5.43% of school food spending went
2 toward Hawai'i-grown products which is a significant difference
3 in percentage from the 2030 Hawai'i's Farm to School goal; now,
4 therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2026, that Hawaii's congressional delegation is requested to
9 petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address
10 the delay in updating school lunch nutrition standards; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
14 congressional delegation and Chairperson of the Board of
15 Agriculture.
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OFFERED BY:

MAR 12 2026

