

Honolulu, Hawaii
APR 01 , 2026

RE: H.R. No. 109

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred H.R. No. 109 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR TO ASSESS FOOD INSECURITY CONDITIONS AND IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE FOOD SECURITY RESPONSE PLAN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor to assess food insecurity conditions in the State and implement a statewide food security response plan to address systemic gaps in access and local production.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Food Industry Association and Hawaii Primary Care Association.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is among the most geographically isolated population centers in the world and remains heavily dependent on imported food and fuel, leaving residents vulnerable to global supply-chain disruptions, shipping constraints, volatility in prices, and emergency events that can drastically affect food availability and affordability. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii's reliance on imported food contributes to some of the highest grocery and living costs in the United States, placing disproportionate pressure on low- and moderate-income households and increasing the risk that families



will be unable to consistently access sufficient, nutritious food. Your Committee also finds that addressing food insecurity requires coordinated, data-driven action across state agencies, counties, and community partners, and an up-to-date, comprehensive assessment is necessary to identify gaps in access, preparedness, and resilience within Hawaii's food system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 109 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



