

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.P.H., M.G.A.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

December 29, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura,
Speaker
and Members of the House of
Representatives
Thirty-third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the Annual Report on Produce Purchased by the Department that is Fresh Local Agricultural Produce and Local Value-Added, Processed, Agricultural, or Food Products to the Legislature, pursuant to Chapter 27, Section 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at:

<https://health.hawaii.gov/opppd/department-of-health-reports-to-2026-legislature/>

Sincerely,

Kenneth S. Fink, M.D., M.P.H., M.G.A.
Director of Health

Enclosures

c: Legislative Reference Bureau
Hawaii State Library System (2)
Hamilton Library

REPORT TO THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

STATE OF HAWAI'I

2026

PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-8, HAWAI'I REVISED STATUTES, REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM TO EACH SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE NO LATER THAN TWENTY DAYS PRIOR TO THE CONVENING OF EACH REGULAR SESSION ON PROGRESS MADE TOWARD MEETING THE BENCHMARKS FOR CERTAIN PERCENTAGES OF THE FOOD PURCHASED BY THAT DEPARTMENT IS FRESH LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND LOCAL VALUE-ADDED, PROCESSED, AGRICULTURAL, OR FOOD PRODUCTS.

Kalaupapa Settlement

The Hansen's Disease facility on Moloka'i is unable to report the amount of total produce purchased in the previous calendar year due to a lack of an accounting object code that identifies produce and "local" produce. There are currently only two object codes that are used for food supplies, 3310, which is Provisions (Not for Resale) and 8710, Store Purchases for Resale or Reissue (includes non-food items). This issue prevents the program's ability to record the amount and percentage of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products purchased by them during the previous calendar year.

There are a total of five (5) Kalaupapa Registry patients remaining. Three (3) are full-time residents at Kalaupapa and two (2) reside on O'ahu. This small number of patients makes the quantification requested by Act 176, SLH 2021, impractical and its policy benefit extremely minor. Food is purchased from local wholesalers and retailers. Due to the small quantities purchased, only a very limited number of companies are willing to sell to Kalaupapa, thereby limiting their choices of where the food is sourced. There are also the additional challenges of being able to identify what items are grown locally versus shipped from out of state to the distributor or store. Many items are received unlabeled with the point of origin.

Hawai'i State Hospital

- Calendar year 2025 total produce purchased: \$273,786.60
- Calendar year 2025 total amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, process, agricultural, or food products: \$42,157.08
- Calendar year 2025 percentage of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products purchases: 15.4%

Implementing this policy continues to be challenging due to State procurement regulations. While §103D-1002, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Hawaii Products, and the Hawai'i Products Preferences list allows some flexibility, asking the vendors to provide the source of products on their invoice will increase the cost of the products. Weather and supply of produce also affects pricing. As a State facility, with a budget, we are tasked with providing nutritious food for the patients at a reasonable price.