

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA**  
**2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A**  
**Honolulu HI 96822**

**SENATE RESOLUTION 06-18**

**IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING A FOOD PANTRY TO UH MĀNOA TO HELP FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 10,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS*, the state of Hawai'i is the most expensive place in the nation to earn a living, and college students are one of the most vulnerable populations who endure the effects of Hawai'i's high cost of living; and<sup>1 2</sup>,
- WHEREAS*, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) calculated that a family of two living in the United States could survive on a "thrifty" food budget averaging on \$385.40 a month; and<sup>3</sup>,
- WHEREAS*, USDA calculated that the same family of two living in Hawai'i would need to allocate approximately 83.5% more per month to survive on a "thrifty" food budget; and<sup>4</sup>,
- WHEREAS*, a situation where consistent and reliable access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources is defined as food insecurity; and,
- WHEREAS*, a recent survey conducted by the Human Nutrition, Food, and Animal Science (HNFAS), a department under the UH Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), found that about 50% of UH Mānoa undergraduate students who completed the survey have experienced food insecurity and about 37% of UH Mānoa undergraduate students who completed the survey are experiencing moderate to severe hunger; and,

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.missourieconomy.org/indicators/cost\\_of\\_living/](https://www.missourieconomy.org/indicators/cost_of_living/)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.civilbeat.org/2015/07/living-Hawai'i-the-nations-worst-place-to-earn-a-living/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cnpp.usda.gov/sites/default/files/CostofFoodJan2018.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cnpp.usda.gov/sites/default/files/AKHI2ndHalf2017.pdf>

*WHEREAS*, the HNFAS survey did not consider students who indicated they were too busy or exhausted to eat to be food insecure; and,

*WHEREAS*, 25% of food insecure students have less than \$3.00 to spend on lunch each day, however, the average cost of lunch at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa exceeds \$7.00; and,

*WHEREAS*, UH Mānoa has selected eighteen universities to gauge its institutional accountability and effectiveness, the eighteen institutions are broken up into benchmark institutions, what UH Mānoa is striving to be as a university, and peer institutions, the level that UH Mānoa should currently be at as a university; and<sup>5</sup>,

*WHEREAS*, as of March 2018, eight out of nine of UH Mānoa’s benchmark institutions have a food pantry program; and,

*WHEREAS*, The eight benchmark institutions that currently have a food pantry program are: University of California-Davis, University of California- Irvine, University of California-San Diego, University of Iowa- Iowa City, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, University of Washington-Seattle; and,

*WHEREAS*, as of March 2018, all nine UH Mānoa peer institutions offer services to help tackle food insecurity on campus; and,

*WHEREAS*, UH Mānoa peer institutions are: Colorado State University-Fort Collins, Oregon State University-Corvallis, Mississippi State University-Starkville, University of Arizona-Tucson, University of Illinois-Chicago, University of Kentucky-Lexington, University of new Mexico-Albuquerque, University of South Florida-Tampa, and University of Utah-Salt Lake City; and,

*WHEREAS*, in 2014, the University of California (UC) President and chancellors launched the Global Food Initiative, as part of the initiative, UC Irvine, one of UH Mānoa’s benchmark institutions, launched a 1,800 square foot on-campus food pantry that provides access to canned and dried foods, perishable foods, fresh produce, toiletries, and a kitchenette; and<sup>6</sup>,

*WHEREAS*, the University of Utah, one of UH Mānoa’s peer institutions, offers a student run food pantry called the Feed U Pantry, the Feed U Pantry

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<sup>5</sup> <https://Mānoa.Hawai'i.edu/miro/peersbenchmark/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/july16/e1attach.pdf>

was able to support over 1,400 University of Utah community members through a campus community effort fueled by volunteers and donations; and,

*WHEREAS,*

the University of Illinois at Chicago, another UH Mānoa peer institution, partners with the Greater Chicago Food Dispensary to bring fresh fruit, vegetables, and dairy to the University's pop-up pantry<sup>7</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS,*

in 2016, Windward community college started a student run food pantry initiative; and,

*WHEREAS,*

these institutions for higher education are able to sustain successful food initiatives due to support from both the campus community and from the community at large; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH views food insecurity as an important issue that is affecting a significant amount of UH Mānoa undergraduate students; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH supports initiatives that offer support to food insecure students; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH believes that UH Mānoa should move forward and follow the example set by the peer and benchmark institutions by initiating a similar food security program; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH supports the establishment of a pilot Food Pantry in partnership with the Office of Student Life and Development and other interested CSOs; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH believes the establishment of a pilot Food Pantry would begin a legacy in providing support for food insecure students; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,*

the ASUH is committed to work with Student Life and Development in seeking approval from the Campus Center Board for space within the complex for a period of three-years for a Food Pantry pilot program that will be operated on the support from the campus community and community at large, with the possibility of extension dependent upon the success of the program; and,

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,* that copies of this resolution shall be sent to:

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<sup>7</sup> <http://wellnesscenter.uic.edu/resources-and-services/pop-up-pantry/>

the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Jan Naoe Sullivan and Members, President and UHM Interim Chancellor David Lassner, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chancellor for Research Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, the Graduate Student Organization, Campus Center Board, Hawai'i Foodbank, Star Advertiser and Ka Leo O Hawai'i.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT SR 06-18**

**Aye(s):** Treasurer Hinshaw, Secretary Ruan, Senators-at-Large Chen, Honda, Lao, Leval, Senators Bonilla, Cantalupo, Hortizuela, Ikehara, Kim, Li, Manabe, Ng, Oshiro, Petersen, Ramirez, Sakamoto, Simeona, Vargas, Willis [21]

**Naye(s):** [0]

**Abstention(s):** [0]

Introducers: Maggie Hinshaw, Treasurer, Jessica Chen, Senator-At-Large, Clinton Ng, Senator, College of Engineering, Chairperson, Investments and Long Range Planning Committee, Nicole Clare Hortizuela, Senator, College of Engineering, Vice Chairperson, Undergraduate of Academic Affairs Committee