

# Resolution

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## RECOGNIZING AUGUST 1-7, 2021, AS FARMERS MARKET WEEK IN MAUI COUNTY

WHEREAS, Maui County farmers provide residents with access to healthful, locally and regionally produced food through farmers markets, which are expanding and evolving to accommodate the demand for a diverse array of food; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, contributing approximately \$9 billion each year to the national economy; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets serve as significant outlets by which small-to-medium, new and beginning, and veteran agricultural producers market food, generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers; generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation; and build community connections through rural and urban linkages; and

WHEREAS, Maui County is home to over 800 farms, which grow stunning varieties of nutritious, flavorful foods; and

WHEREAS, buying locally grown products helps preserve our agricultural heritage and our connection to our ancestral roots; and

WHEREAS, Maui County's varied climate allows for year-round farming and supports a wide variety of crops; and

WHEREAS, supporting farmers markets and eating locally produced food help:

- improve our food security by delivering flavorful, healthy, safe, and fresh produce;

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- support our farmers and local economy;
- decrease “food miles” involved in transporting foods;
- reduce the likelihood of introducing harmful invasive pests;
- contribute to preserving managed green open space and other farm and grassland ecosystem values;
- nurture locally sourced cuisine unique to Maui County; and
- hold a resource of knowledge and education for our children; and

WHEREAS, among the numerous farmers markets in Maui County are:

- Farmers Market at Lahaina Jodo Mission;
- Farmers Market of Maui in Kihei;
- Hana Farmers Market;
- Ko Mahi‘ai Makeke in Kihei;
- Kumu Farms Maui in Wailuku;
- Kumu Farms Moloka‘i in Kualapu‘u;
- Lāna‘i Farmers Market in Lāna‘i City;
- Maliko Country Farms in Ha‘iku;
- Napili Farmers Market;
- Saturday Farmers Market in Makawao;
- Sust‘āinable Molokai Mobile Farmers Market;
- Upcountry Farmers Market in Pukalani; and
- Wailea Village Farmers Market; and

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WHEREAS, farmers markets provide access to locally sourced, affordable, fresh, and delicious food that contributes to healthier lifestyles, a more secure economy, and a more sustainable environment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it recognizes August 1-7, 2021, as Farmers Market Week in Maui County; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Ben Feldman, Executive Director, Farmers Market Coalition; Harmonee Williams, Executive Director, Hawaii Farmers Market Association; Jessica Yamauchi, Chief Executive Officer, Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Warren K. Watanabe, Chair, Maui County Farm Bureau; Vincent Mina, President, Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Reba O'Day, Chair, Hawai'i Farmers Union United—Haleakalā; Kaipo Kekona, President, Hawai'i Farmers Union United—Lahaina; Lehia Apana, Director, Hawai'i Farmers Union United—Mauna-Kahalawai; Robert Boudreaux, President, Hawai'i Farmers Union United—Hana; Dania Novack Katz, Publisher, edible Hawaiian Islands; Farmers Market at Lahaina Jodo Mission; Farmers Market of Maui in Kihei; Hana Farmers Market; Ko Mahi'ai Makeke in Kihei; Kumu Farms Maui in Wailuku; Kumu Farms Moloka'i in Kualapu'u; Lāna'i Farmers Market in Lāna'i City; Maliko Country Farms in Ha'iku; Napili Farmers Market; Saturday Farmers Market in Makawao; Sust'ainable Molokai Mobile Farmers Market; Upcountry Farmers Market in Pukalani; Wailea Village Farmers Market; JoAnn Inamasu, Economic Development Director, County of Maui; Patrick Ornellas, Agricultural Specialist, County of Maui; the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui; Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, Chairperson, Board of Agriculture, State of Hawai'i; and the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i.