

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a sustainable food  
2 system is one in which producers, retailers, community members,  
3 non-governmental organizations, and government agencies partner  
4 to create a vibrant and resilient local food economy that  
5 enhances and sustains the environmental, economic, and social  
6 health of the community.

7           The legislature further finds that the development of a  
8 more sustainable food system for Hawaii represents an  
9 opportunity to create a new food economy that integrates the  
10 objectives of "green" job creation, sustainable economic  
11 development, land stewardship, food security, environmental  
12 protection, and climate change resiliency with community health  
13 and well-being.

14           Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to establish within  
15 the department of agriculture the sustainable food systems  
16 working group to develop an interagency food systems plan.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department  
2 of agriculture the sustainable food systems working group. The  
3 working group shall develop an interagency food systems plan  
4 linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for a  
5 more sustainable, resilient local food economy that enhances and  
6 sustains the environmental, economic, and social health of the  
7 community. The plan shall include the identification of a  
8 governance structure and a plan for implementation.

9 (b) The sustainable food systems working group shall be  
10 composed of the following members:

11 (1) One member of the house of representatives, to be  
12 selected by the speaker of the house of  
13 representatives;

14 (2) One member of the senate, to be selected by the  
15 president of the senate;

16 (3) A representative of the Hawaii tourism authority, to  
17 be selected by the president and chief executive  
18 officer of the Hawaii tourism authority;

19 (4) Two representatives of the university of Hawaii system  
20 who have experience in food systems, to be selected by



1 the dean of the college of tropical agriculture and  
2 human resources;

3 (5) A representative of the department of agriculture, to  
4 be selected by the chairperson of the board of  
5 agriculture;

6 (6) A representative of the department of health, to be  
7 selected by the director of health;

8 (7) A representative of the office of Hawaiian affairs, to  
9 be selected by the chairperson of the board of  
10 trustees of the office of Hawaiian affairs;

11 (8) A representative of the office of climate change,  
12 sustainability and resiliency of the city and county  
13 of Honolulu, to be selected by the chief resilience  
14 officer and executive director of the office of  
15 climate change, sustainability and resiliency of the  
16 city and county of Honolulu;

17 (9) The food access coordinators of the city and county of  
18 Honolulu and the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai;

19 (10) A representative of the department of Native Hawaiian  
20 health of the John A. Burns school of medicine of the



- 1 university of Hawaii, to be selected by the chair of  
2 the department of Native Hawaiian health;
- 3 (11) Two persons with familiarity, experience, or expertise  
4 in the Native Hawaiian community, to be selected by  
5 the chairperson of the board of agriculture; provided  
6 that one of the members shall be a resident of a  
7 county other than the city and county of Honolulu;
- 8 (12) A representative of the Hawaii Farm Bureau, to be  
9 selected by the president of the Hawaii Farm Bureau;
- 10 (13) A representative of the Hawaii Foodbank, to be  
11 selected by the president and chief executive officer  
12 of the Hawaii Foodbank;
- 13 (14) A representative of the agricultural sector, to be  
14 selected by the chairperson of the board of  
15 agriculture;
- 16 (15) Four farmers, each of whom shall respectively  
17 represent one of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, or  
18 Maui, or the city and county of Honolulu, and who  
19 shall be selected by the chairperson of the board of  
20 agriculture;



1 (16) Four representatives of the agricultural sector, each  
2 of whom shall respectively represent one of the  
3 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, or the city and  
4 county of Honolulu, and who shall be selected by the  
5 respective mayor of each county;

6 (17) A representative of the farm-to-school community in  
7 Hawaii, to be selected by the chairperson of the board  
8 of agriculture;

9 (18) A representative of the Hawaii Foodservice Alliance,  
10 to be selected by the owner of the Hawaii Foodservice  
11 Alliance;

12 (19) A representative of the Hawaii Food Industry  
13 Association, to be selected by the executive director  
14 of the Hawaii Food Industry Association;

15 (20) A representative of the Hawaii Farmers Union United,  
16 to be selected by the president of the Hawaii Farmers  
17 Union United;

18 (21) A representative of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council,  
19 Inc., to be selected by the president of the Hawaii  
20 Cattlemen's Council, Inc.;



1           (22) A representative of the Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance  
2                   for Conservation and Tradition, to be selected by the  
3                   president of the Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for  
4                   Conservation and Tradition; and

5           (23) A representative of the commercial fishing sector of  
6                   the State, to be selected by the administrator of the  
7                   division of aquatic resources of the department of  
8                   land and natural resources.

9           (c) The chairperson of the board of agriculture shall  
10           serve as chair of the sustainable food systems working group.

11           (d) The interagency food systems plan shall:

12           (1) Address the following:

13                   (A) Food as a human right and healthy food for all;

14                   (B) Social equity and food justice;

15                   (C) Food system resilience;

16                   (D) Agriculture and food system sustainability;

17                   (E) Food at the center of a circular economy;

18                   (F) Sustainable education, workforce development, and  
19                   fair labor; and

20                   (G) Good food governance; and

21           (2) Incorporate the county food access plans.



1 (e) The sustainable food systems working group shall  
2 submit the interagency food systems plan and any recommendations  
3 for implementation of the plan, including any proposed  
4 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
5 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

6 (f) The department of agriculture shall provide any  
7 necessary staff support, including support for the preparation  
8 of the interagency food systems plan identified in subsection  
9 (a), to the sustainable food systems working group.

10 (g) The sustainable food systems working group shall be  
11 dissolved on June 30, 2025.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
15 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
16 year 2024-2025 to establish the sustainable food systems working  
17 group and to implement section 2 of this Act, including  
18 coordinating stakeholder meetings; managing public meetings and  
19 website data in accordance with chapter 92, Hawaii Revised  
20 Statutes; writing and printing the interagency food systems  
21 plan; and potentially obtaining services for a fee.



1           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
2 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

3           SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$           or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
6 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
7 year 2024-2025 for           full-time equivalent (       FTE)  
8 sustainability specialist position in the department of  
9 agriculture.

10          The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
11 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

12          SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Sustainable Food Systems Working Group; HDOA; Plan;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the sustainable food systems working group within the Department of Agriculture. Requires the working group to submit a plan, any recommendations for implementing the plan, and any proposed legislation to the Legislature. Appropriates funds to establish the working group and develop the plan and for an unspecified number of sustainability specialist positions to be employed by the Department of Agriculture. Effective 6/30/3000. (SD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

