

JAN 24 2024

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the university  
2 of Hawaii's Leeward community college, in collaboration with the  
3 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
4 resources, a farm succession pilot program, which shall be a  
5 five-year pilot program to further the knowledge and technical  
6 skills of young farmers.

7           (b) The farm succession pilot program shall:

8           (1) Encourage matchmaking between incoming and outgoing  
9 farmers to ensure succession of agricultural lands and  
10 productive resources;

11          (2) Encourage matchmaking between recently trained farmers  
12 and available jobs in agriculture and food systems;

13          (3) Provide technical assistance and coordination to  
14 assist prospective farmers with access to land,  
15 financing, and counseling, and with developing  
16 business planning, business management, and grant  
17 writing skills;



1 (4) Offer and fund programs that provide education and  
2 training to beginning farmers and ranchers and  
3 socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, including  
4 agricultural rehabilitation and vocational training  
5 programs;

6 (5) Advance land partnerships, including farm incubator  
7 programs and educational programs on commercial farms  
8 that teach agricultural and business skills; and

9 (6) Encourage and advance native Hawaiian participation in  
10 farming and ranching through partnerships with the  
11 office of Hawaiian affairs.

12 (c) Leeward community college may consult with any public  
13 or private entity, including the Hawaii Good Food Alliance,  
14 Hawaii Farm Bureau, Hawaii Farmers Union United, university of  
15 Hawaii's GoFarm Hawaii program, and office of Hawaiian affairs,  
16 and representatives therefrom, to carry out its duties under  
17 contract with the pilot program established pursuant to this  
18 Act.

19 (d) Leeward community college, in collaboration with the  
20 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
21 resources, shall submit a report of its findings and



1 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
2 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
3 the regular session of 2030.

4 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
5 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
7 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
8 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
9 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
10 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
11 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
12 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
13 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
14 ceiling are that:

- 15 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
16 serve the public interest; and  
17 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
18 addressed by this Act.

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for



1 the implementation of the farm succession pilot program  
2 established under section 1 of this Act, which shall include an  
3 allocation of \$ for the establishment of four full-  
4 time equivalent (4.0 FTE) staff positions for the farm  
5 succession pilot program.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by Leeward community  
7 college for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
11 the extension of the farmer apprentice mentoring program  
12 established by Act 304, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 agriculture for the purposes of Act 304, Session Laws of Hawaii  
15 2022.

16 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:



# S.B. NO. 3304

**Report Title:**

DOA; Leeward Community College; University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agricultural and Human Resources; Farm Succession Pilot Program; Farmer Apprentice Mentoring Program; Report; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes the Farm Succession Pilot Program under the Leeward Community College. Appropriates funds for the pilot program and for the Department of Agriculture's Farmer Apprentice Mentoring Program. Requires a report to the Legislature. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.

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

