
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that as the state has
2 transitioned away from plantation agriculture, diversified
3 agriculture has become an essential component of our overall
4 agriculture industry. Aquaculture, which reached \$28,400,000 in
5 wholesale product value in 2005, represents one of the fastest
6 growing sectors of diversified agriculture in the state, with a
7 future brimming with potential. One of the most essential
8 resources for the aquaculture industry has been statewide
9 technical assistance provided by the University of Hawaii sea
10 grant extension service (UH/SGES). Both state and federal funds
11 are used to fund this important program.

12 However, over the years, state and federal funding for the
13 UH/SGES has declined, while costs for materials, supplies, and
14 salaries have increased, eroding the buying power of the funds
15 remaining for this program. In addition, US/SGES agents will be
16 receiving significant salary increases over the upcoming fiscal
17 biennium. Additional funding is needed to pay for these costs



1 and to provide state matching funds to draw down federal funds
2 for the UH/SGES.

3 The purpose of this Act is to restore funding to UH/SGES by
4 appropriating funds to pay for increased costs and to provide
5 the state match for federal funding.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
9 sum of \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for
10 fiscal year 2008-2009 to pay for increased costs of the
11 University of Hawaii sea grant extension service and provide for
12 state matching funds to draw down federal funds for this
13 program.

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

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.
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INTRODUCED BY:

John De
Della G. Belatti

[Signature]
On 9.7. [Signature]

[Signature]
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Report Title:

Aquaculture; Statewide Technical Extension for Aquaculture

Description:

Appropriates funds to pay for cost increases for statewide technical extension services provided to the aquaculture industry through the University of Hawaii Sea Grant Extension Service.

