
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 there are certain
2 lands in the Ewa plains, presently under cultivation, that
3 serve:

4 (1) As a valuable source of replenishing the underground
5 Ewa aquifer;

6 (2) To promote agricultural self-sufficiency for the
7 State;

8 (3) To provide agricultural employment opportunities for
9 local residents;

10 (4) To provide educational opportunities for the Future
11 Farmers of America program; and

12 (5) As a valuable green belt between urban and other uses
13 in the region.

14 The purpose of this Act is to preserve certain lands in the
15 Ewa plains in the agricultural district.

16 SECTION 2. Those lands presently under cultivation in the
17 Ewa plains situated south of the H-1 highway, west of Fort
18 Weaver road, north of Renton road, and east of Fort Barrette



1 road shall not be reclassified out of the agricultural district,
 2 pending the provisions contained in section 4. The land use
 3 commission shall not accept, hear, or act upon any petition to
 4 reclassify the lands described in this Act to a land use
 5 district other than the agricultural district, pending the
 6 provisions contained in section 4.

7 SECTION 3. The provisions of this Act shall have no effect
 8 on any lands, under cultivation or not under cultivation, that
 9 are purchased, sold, exchanged, reserved, or otherwise set aside
 10 to be used for the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus.

11 SECTION 4. The department of agriculture is directed to
 12 enter into negotiations with the fee owner of the lands
 13 described in section 2 to assist in the provision of:

- 14 (1) An extension of the existing leases with present
 15 tenants of the lands that are under long-term
 16 agricultural leases and currently are engaged in
 17 cultivating agricultural crops on the land; or
- 18 (2) An agreement to assist in the relocation of the
 19 tenants of the land that currently are engaged in
 20 cultivating agricultural crops on the land, at the
 21 termination of their current leases, to suitable other
 22 agricultural lands with sufficient agricultural



1 infrastructure to support the agricultural activities
2 the tenants wish to continue.
3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Land Use; Agricultural Lands; Ewa Plains

Description:

Prohibits the reclassification of certain lands in the Ewa plains out of the agricultural district, except lands set aside for University of Hawaii West Oahu campus, pending negotiations between the fee owner and department of agriculture.

