H.B. NO. 1471

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FARMS.

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

1	SECT	ION 1. (a) The Hawaii tourism authority shall plan
2	and implement a food certification pilot program to benefit	
3	small farmers throughout the state.	
4	(b)	The pilot program shall be managed by the Hawaii
5	tourism authority; provided that the department of agriculture	
6	and the department of health shall provide the authority with	
7	assistanc	e as necessary in implementing the pilot program. The
8	pilot program shall:	
9	(1)	Encourage small farmers to form agricultural
10		cooperatives;
11	(2)	Coordinate purchasing agreements between the
12		agricultural cooperatives and hotels, restaurants, and
13		other buyers in the visitor and hospitality
14		industries; and
15	(3)	Develop and implement "safe" food certification for
16		products under the pilot program to promote fresh,
17		high-quality, locally-grown produce grown by Hawaii
18		small farmers.



H.B. NO. 1471

All small farmers operating in the state shall be eligible to
 apply for the pilot program.

3 (c) The Hawaii tourism authority shall establish and
4 manage a separate and distinct special fund to be known as the
5 food certification pilot program special fund to provide funding
6 needed to operate the pilot program.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the tourism
8 special fund the sum of \$160,000 or so much thereof as may be
9 necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 to be
11 deposited into the food certification pilot program special fund
12 established in section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the food certification pilot program special fund the sum of \$160,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 for the operations of the food certification pilot program established in section 1 of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the21 Hawaii tourism authority for the purposes of this Act.



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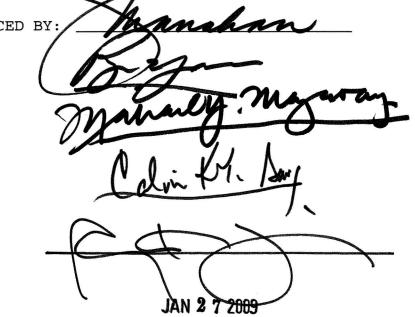
H.B. NO. 1471

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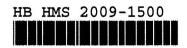
SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

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INTRODUCED BY:



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Report Title:

Food Safe Certification; Pilot Program; Small Farmers

Description:

Establishes a pilot program to develop safe food certification for small farms that form agricultural cooperatives and establish purchasing agreements with hotels and restaurants.

