S.B. NO. ¹⁵⁵⁹ S.D. 2 H.D. 1

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

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

1	PART I
2 [.]	SECTION 1. Section 205-46.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3	amended to read as follows:
4	"[+]§205-46.5[+] Agricultural processing facilities;
5	permits; priority. (a) Any agency subject to this chapter or
6	title 13 that issues permits shall establish and implement a
7	procedure for the priority processing of permit applications and
8	renewals, at no additional cost to the applicant, for
9	agricultural processing facilities that process crops or
10	livestock from an agribusiness; provided that [the]:
11	(1) The majority of the lands held, owned, or used by the
12	agribusiness shall be land designated as important
13	agricultural lands pursuant to this part, excluding
14	lands held, owned, or used by the agribusiness in a
15	conservation district[+]; or
16	(2) All of the crops or livestock processed at the
17	facility is produced on land designated as important
18	agricultural land pursuant to this part; provided that
	SB1559 HD1 HMS 2011-3227

Page 2

S.B. NO. $_{H.D. 1}^{1559}$

1	this requirement shall apply for at least twenty years
2	following the issuance of a certificate of occupancy
3	for the facility.
4	Any priority permit processing procedure established
5	pursuant to this section shall not provide or imply that any
6	permit application filed under the priority processing procedure
7	shall be automatically approved.
8	(b) As used in this section, "agribusiness" means a
9	business primarily engaged in the care and production, or
10	processing, of livestock, livestock products, poultry, poultry
11	products, apiary, horticultural or floricultural products, the
12	planting, cultivating, and harvesting of crops or trees, or the
13	farming or ranching of any plant or animal species in a
14	controlled salt, brackish, or fresh water environment."
15	PART II
16	SECTION 3. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
18	and to read as follows:
19	<pre>"§269- Preferential energy rates; important agricultural</pre>
20	lands. (a) The public utilities commission shall establish, by
21	rule or decision and order, preferential rates for the purchase
22	of energy that is used or consumed for agricultural activities
	SB1559 HD1 HMS 2011-3227 2

1559 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 S.B. NO.

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1	on important agricultural lands, as designated pursuant to
2	sections 205-44 and 205-45.
3	(b) Upon receipt of a bona fide request for the purchase
4	of energy that is used or consumed for agricultural activities
5	on important agricultural lands, and proof that the energy will
6	be used or consumed in conjunction with agricultural activities
7	on important agricultural lands, a public utility shall present
8	the request for preferential rates to the public utilities
9	commission for approval."
10	PART III
11	SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
13	SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



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Report Title: Important Agricultural Lands; Incentives

Description:

Establishes incentives for important agricultural lands. Effective July 1, 2020. (SB1559 HD1)

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

