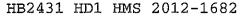
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The convenience of modern society has provided
- 2 a variety of inexpensive food choices, but has eliminated our
- 3 connection with and understanding of where food comes from,
- 4 resulting in less healthful eating and a distancing from the
- 5 natural environment that we depend on.
- 6 A University of Hawaii report made to the legislature in
- 7 response to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 121, S.D. 1,
- 8 H.D. 1, Regular Session of 2009, through the collaboration of
- 9 private, public, and nonprofit entities, pointed to the problems
- 10 of food insecurity and growing obesity rates that the State of
- 11 Hawaii is facing. One in every three children born in the year
- 12 2000 is expected to develop diabetes. Furthermore, the 2003
- 13 food security task force report found that over nineteen per
- 14 cent of Hawaii residents live in food-insecure households.
- 15 Supporting local agriculture through initiatives like the farm-
- 16 to-school program can combat both of these problems.
- 17 Increasing the consumption of locally grown foods will
- 18 ensure that fresh, high-quality produce is available for healthy





- 1 meals in schools, hospitals, and correctional facilities
- 2 throughout the State. The increased revenue for local farmers
- 3 will reverse the trend of farmers struggling to break even and
- 4 will place agriculture at the forefront as a driving economic
- 5 force providing jobs and food security for our State. Further,
- 6 the availability of local produce will ensure that our children
- 7 eat the highest quality food that will nourish their bodies,
- 8 enhance their educational experience, and cultivate long-term
- 9 healthy habits.
- 10 The purpose of this Act is to establish and codify a policy
- 11 to buy local produce and support local agriculture.
- 12 SECTION 2. Section 226-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 13 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
- 14 "(b) To achieve the agriculture objectives, it shall be
- 15 the policy of this State to:
- 16 (1) Establish a clear direction for Hawaii's agriculture
- 17 through stakeholder commitment and advocacy.
- 18 (2) Encourage agriculture by making best use of natural
- resources.
- 20 (3) Provide the governor and the legislature with
- 21 information and options needed for prudent decision
- 22 making for the development of agriculture.

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(4)	Escapitsh scrong retactionships between the
	agricultural and visitor industries for mutual
	marketing benefits.
(5)	Foster increased public awareness and understanding of
	the contributions and benefits of agriculture as a
	major sector of Hawaii's economy.
(6)	Seek the enactment and retention of federal and state
	legislation that benefits Hawaii's agricultural
	industries.
(7)	Strengthen diversified agriculture by developing an
	effective promotion, marketing, and distribution
	system between Hawaii's producers and [consumer
	markets locally, on the continental United States, and
	internationally.] consumers in the State, nation, and
	world.
	(5) (6)

- (8) Support research and development activities that strengthen economic productivity in agriculture, stimulate greater efficiency, and enhance the development of new products and agricultural byproducts.
- (9) Enhance agricultural growth by providing publicincentives and encouraging private initiatives.

1	(10)	Assure the availability of agriculturally suitable
2		lands with adequate water to accommodate present and
3		future needs.
4	(11)	Increase the attractiveness and opportunities for an
5		agricultural education and livelihood.
6	(12)	Expand Hawaii's agricultural base by promoting growth
7		and development of flowers, tropical fruits and
8		plants, livestock, feed grains, forestry, food crops,
9		aquaculture, and other potential enterprises.
10	(13)	Promote economically competitive activities that
11		increase Hawaii's agricultural self-sufficiency[+]
12		including the increased purchase of Hawaii-grown foods
13		by residents and increased use of Hawaii-grown foods
14		by governmental bodies as defined under section 103D-
15		<u>104.</u>
16	(14)	Promote and assist in the establishment of sound
17		financial programs for diversified agriculture.
18	(15)	Institute and support programs and activities to
19		assist the entry of displaced agricultural workers
20		into alternative agricultural or other employment.

1	(16)	Facilitate the transition of agricultural lands in
2		economically nonfeasible agricultural production to
3		economically viable agricultural uses."
4	SECTI	ON 3. Section 226-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	amended by	amending subsection (d) to read as follows:
6	" (d)	Priority guidelines to promote the growth and
7	developmer	at of diversified agriculture and aquaculture:
8	(1)	Identify, conserve, and protect agricultural and
9		aquacultural lands of importance and initiate
ŧ0		affirmative and comprehensive programs to promote
11		economically productive agricultural and aquacultural
12		uses of such lands.
13	(2)	Assist in providing adequate, reasonably priced water
14		for agricultural activities.
15	(3)	Encourage public and private investment to increase
16		water supply and to improve transmission, storage, and
.7		irrigation facilities in support of diversified
18		agriculture and aquaculture.
19	(4)	Assist in the formation and operation of production
20		and marketing associations and cooperatives to reduce

production and marketing costs.

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1	, (5)	Encourage and assist with the development of a
2		waterborne and airborne freight and cargo system
3		capable of meeting the needs of Hawaii's agricultural
4		community.
5	• (6)	Seek favorable freight rates for Hawaii's agricultural
6		products from interisland and overseas transportation
7		operators.
8	(7)	Encourage the development and expansion of
9		agricultural and aquacultural activities which offer
10		long-term economic growth potential and employment
11		opportunities.
12	(8)	Continue the development of agricultural parks and
13		other programs to assist small independent farmers in
14		securing agricultural lands and loans.
15	(9)	Require agricultural uses in agricultural subdivisions
16		and closely monitor the uses in these subdivisions.
17	(10)	Support the continuation of land currently in use for
18		diversified agriculture.
19	(11)	Encourage residents and visitors to support Hawaii's
20		farmers by purchasing locally-grown products."

- 1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Policies for the Economy; Agriculture

Description:

Amends objectives and policies for the economy to support the purchase and consumption of locally grown products. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB2431 HD1)

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