
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A SCHOOL FARM COMPLEX.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is in the public
2 interest to support agricultural self-sustainability.
3 Innovative ideas must be explored through collaborative efforts
4 of government, industry, and community specialists. One idea is
5 to establish a "school farm complex" as a pilot project. The
6 school farm complex would be a bona fide farming enterprise that
7 includes classroom facilities and educational curriculum. The
8 day-to-day operations of the school farm complex would be
9 handled by community partners, including local farmers, with
10 groups of students from area schools utilizing the complex's
11 classroom and experiential components on a rotational basis.
12 The legislature also finds that a school farm complex pilot
13 project would further the goals of Hawaii's long-term
14 agricultural sustainability plan by generating and perpetuating
15 interest in farming and agriculture among school children, our
16 next generation.

17 The legislature further finds that projects are currently
18 being developed to support the production and marketability of



1 local agriculture and to increase youth and academic interest in
2 agriculture, with which governmental and nonprofit community
3 initiatives would benefit from networking.

4 The purpose of this Act is to establish a school farm
5 complex task force to explore the feasibility of establishing a
6 school farm complex pilot project on the island of Oahu.

7 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a school farm complex
8 task force to determine the feasibility of implementing a school
9 farm complex pilot project at the University of Hawaii - West
10 Oahu campus.

11 (b) The task force shall be convened by the University of
12 Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture no later than
13 January 1, 2015.

14 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members
15 or their respective designees:

16 (1) The dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa college
17 of tropical agriculture and human resources who shall
18 serve as the co-chair of the task force;

19 (2) The University of Hawaii - West Oahu vice-chancellor
20 of academic affairs who shall serve as the co-chair of
21 the task force;

22 (3) The chairperson of the board of agriculture;



- 1 (4) The superintendent of education;
2 (5) The director of health; and
3 (6) The director of business, economic development, and
4 tourism.

5 (d) In addition to the members designated in subsection
6 (c), the following representatives shall be selected and invited
7 by the co-chairs of the task force to join the task force:

- 8 (1) A representative of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;
9 (2) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
10 small-operation farmers;
11 (3) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
12 medium-operation farmers;
13 (4) A member of the agriculture industry who represents
14 large-operation farmers;
15 (5) Representatives from nonprofit and community
16 agriculture and education organizations; and
17 (6) A member who shall represent farmers' markets.

18 (e) The school farm complex task force shall:

- 19 (1) Develop recommendations and strategies to facilitate
20 the successful implementation of a school farm complex
21 pilot project;



- 1 (2) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or hinders
2 a school farm complex pilot project from being
3 established;
- 4 (3) Identify any type of barrier that prevents or hinders
5 schools or other entities from participating in school
6 farm complex projects that teach children and the
7 public about the concepts of food production and
8 consumption, the value of an accessible supply of
9 locally grown food, the interrelationships between
10 nutrition, food choices, obesity, health, and
11 agricultural enterprise "best practices";
- 12 (4) Address implementation barriers that may include, but
13 are not limited to, the following issues:
- 14 (A) Transportation;
- 15 (B) Storage;
- 16 (C) Marketing;
- 17 (D) Contracting; and
- 18 (E) Food certification, food safety, and health; and
- 19 (5) Investigate the status and availability of local,
20 state, federal, and any other resources that may be
21 used to further the mission and recommendations of the



1 task force and eliminate the barriers that prevent or
2 hinder the establishment of a school farm complex.

3 (f) The task force shall submit to the legislature, no
4 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
5 session of 2016, a report on its findings and recommendations,
6 including an implementation plan and proposed legislation.

7 (g) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2016.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Agriculture; School Farm Complex Task Force

Description:

Establishes a school farm complex task force to determine the feasibility of a school farm complex pilot project on Oahu. Requires a report to the legislature. (HD1)

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