H.B. NO.502

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. In an October 2012 report titled "Increased 2 Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy, " the office of 3 planning and the department of business, economic development, 4 and tourism recommended that food security and food self-5 sufficiency become a priority for the State's economic and 6 agricultural policies. The legislature finds that eighty-five 7 to ninety per cent of Hawaii's food is imported. Ninety per 8 cent of the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh vegetables, 9 sixty-five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty per cent of 10 all milk purchased in the State are imported. If a natural 11 disaster prevents the importation of food, there would only be a 12 ten day supply of food on the islands.

13 The legislature finds that each food product imported to
14 Hawaii is a lost opportunity for local economic growth.
15 Replacing ten per cent of current food imports will create a
16 total of two thousand three hundred jobs and keep hundreds of
17 millions of dollars within the State's economy.



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1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to promote food 2 self-sufficiency by appropriating moneys to the department of 3 agriculture to monitor local food production, in accordance with 4 the department's statutory duty to increase agricultural self-5 sufficiency, and directing the department of agriculture to 6 issue a request for proposals for the establishment of a food 7 sufficiency baseline. 8 SECTION 2. For purposes of this Act, "food" means all 9 edible agriculture products intended for human consumption; 10 provided that food shall not include: 11 (1)Feed consumed by animals other than pets; 12 (2) Live animals unless they are intended to be placed on 13 the market for human consumption; 14 (3) Plants prior to harvesting; and 15 (4) Crops used for bio-engineering, testing, or research. 16 SECTION 3. The department of agriculture shall establish 17 full-time equivalent (FTE) local food production monitor 18 positions to monitor local food production in accordance with 19 the department's statutory duty to administer a program of 20 agricultural planning and development that includes actions to 21 increase agricultural self-sufficiency.



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SECTION 4. Pursuant to chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised
 Statutes, the department of agriculture shall issue a request
 for proposals to contract for a report with findings on the
 establishment of a food sufficiency baseline that determines the
 percentage of food that currently is consumed and produced in
 the State. This baseline is intended to enable the State to set
 goals and move towards greater food self-sufficiency.

8 The entity awarded the contract, in conjunction with the 9 department of agriculture, shall submit the report of its 10 findings to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to 11 the convening of the regular session of 2015.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to establish positions within the department of agriculture to monitor local food production.

18 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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Jesorca Wood INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 1 8 2013



H.B. NO. 502

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Food Self-Sufficiency; Request for Proposal

Description:

Appropriates monies to the department of agriculture to create positions within the department to monitor local food production. Requires the issuance of an RFP for the establishment of a food sufficiency baseline that determines the percentage of food locally produced and consumed. Effective July 1, 2013.

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