
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's
2 overreliance on imported foods has threatened the State's food
3 sustainability and economy. Nearly eighty-five per cent of the
4 food consumed in the State is imported.

5 The legislature further recognizes the importance of local
6 food production and has made investments into ensuring that
7 local agriculture has necessary resources, such as access and
8 leases to land, infrastructure, and water. Per article XI,
9 section 3, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the State
10 shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote
11 diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency,
12 and assure the availability of agricultural suitable lands. The
13 State has and continues to purchase fallow agricultural lands;
14 however, funding resources are limited.

15 The purpose of this Act is to give preference to moneys
16 deposited in the agricultural development and food security
17 special fund from the environmental response, energy, and food



1 security tax for the acquisition of real property for
2 agricultural production.

3 SECTION 2. Section 141-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 "(c) Subject to legislative appropriation, moneys in the
6 special fund may be expended for the following purposes:

7 (1) The awarding of grants to farmers for agricultural
8 production or processing activity;

9 (2) The acquisition of real property for agricultural
10 production or processing activity; provided that the
11 acquisition of real property for agricultural
12 production or processing activity shall be given
13 preference with any moneys deposited into the special
14 fund as the portion of the environmental response,
15 energy, and food security tax specified under section
16 243-3.5;

17 (3) The improvement of real property, dams, reservoirs,
18 irrigation systems, and transportation networks
19 necessary to promote agricultural production or
20 processing activity, including investigative studies
21 to identify and assess necessary improvements to dams,



- 1 reservoirs, irrigation systems, and transportation
2 networks;
- 3 (4) The purchase of equipment necessary for agricultural
4 production or processing activity;
- 5 (5) The conduct of research on and testing of agricultural
6 products and markets;
- 7 (6) The funding of agricultural inspector positions within
8 the department of agriculture;
- 9 (7) The promotion and marketing of agricultural products
10 grown or raised in the State;
- 11 (8) Water quality testing and improvement; and
- 12 (9) Any other activity intended to increase agricultural
13 production or processing that may lead to reduced
14 importation of food, fodder, or feed from outside the
15 State."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



Report Title:

Agricultural Development and Food Security Fund; Barrel Tax

Description:

Gives preference to moneys deposited in the agricultural development and food security special fund from the environmental response, energy, and food security tax for the acquisition of real property for agricultural production. (SD1)

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