

JAN 18 2013

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SECURITY.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in the event of an  
2 emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine where state harbors  
3 and airports would be closed for an indefinite period of time,  
4 the issue of food security would become of paramount importance.  
5 It is imperative that the legislature act now to address food  
6 security issues stemming from catastrophic events that could  
7 entirely prevent cargo ships from reaching port or aircraft from  
8 air dropping supplies, leaving the State completely self-reliant  
9 to meet the food needs of the people.

10       The purpose of this Act is to establish a food security  
11 task force to develop an emergency food plan for the State that  
12 addresses certain food security issues resulting from an  
13 emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine.

14       SECTION 2. (a) There is established in the department of  
15 agriculture for administrative purposes a temporary food  
16 security task force.

17       (b) The task force shall develop an emergency food plan  
18 for the State that addresses certain food security issues



1 resulting from an emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine  
2 that leaves the State completely self-reliant to meet the food  
3 needs of the people.

4 (c) The chairperson of the board of agriculture of the  
5 State shall serve as chairperson of the task force.

6 (d) In addition to the chairperson of the board of  
7 agriculture, the task force shall consist of the following  
8 members or their representatives:

9 (1) The adjutant general and director of civil defense;

10 (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural  
11 resources;

12 (3) The vice director of civil defense;

13 (4) The chairperson of the agribusiness development  
14 corporation board of directors; and

15 (5) The dean and director of the college of tropical  
16 agriculture and human resources.

17 (e) The chairperson of the task force may invite  
18 representatives from the following stakeholders to participate  
19 as members:

20 (1) The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;

21 (2) The Hawaii Farmers Union United board of directors;

22 (3) The United States military; and



- (4) Other interested parties, as determined by the chairperson.
- (f) The task force shall:
  - (1) Identify public and private lands that could be cultivated for immediate emergency farming;
  - (2) Identify irrigation equipment and infrastructure needs for large scale farming;
  - (3) Identify the best crops to grow in terms of nutrition and harvest cycle;
  - (4) Identify current agriculture operations or companies that could assist the State in growing the best crops;
  - (5) Examine the feasibility of creating public orchards on government land or planting five thousand fruit trees in state and city parks within the next five years;
  - (6) Examine the feasibility of using commercial fishermen to provide food from the sea;
  - (7) Develop a plan to distribute information and resources for individual home gardens, including emergency seed packets;
  - (8) Consider deer, boar, and wild goat populations as sources of food for any plan;



(9) Develop a food distribution and conservation plan involving existing retail and wholesale food stores and other food bank operations;

(10) Identify vulnerable populations during a food crisis;

(11) Develop an emergency food drop program that identifies other countries, government agencies, businesses, nonprofits, and others who may participate in emergency food drop efforts; and

(12) Develop a security plan to monitor and protect farms and other food growing areas.

(g) The task force shall submit reports of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature as follows:

(1) An interim report no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014; and

(2) A final report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2015.

(h) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2015.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

Food Security Task Force

**Description:**

Establishes a temporary food security task force in the Department of Agriculture to develop an emergency food plan that addresses certain food security issues resulting from an emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine.

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

