
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is located
2 approximately 2,506 miles from the continental United States.
3 As the most geographically isolated state in the country, Hawaii
4 imports approximately ninety-two per cent of its food, according
5 to the Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments
6 Program. Currently, Hawaii has an inventory of fresh produce
7 that would supply consumers for no more than ten days. Ninety
8 per cent of the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh
9 vegetables, sixty-five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty
10 per cent of all milk purchased in the State are imported. The
11 legislature also finds that Hawaii's reliance on out-of-state
12 sources of food places residents directly at risk of food
13 shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic
14 disruption, and other external factors beyond the State's
15 control.

16 The legislature further finds that each food product
17 imported to Hawaii is a lost opportunity for local economic
18 growth. The legislature notes that according to the University



1 of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources,
2 an increase in the production and sale of Hawaii-grown food
3 would contribute to significant job creation. The research
4 shows that replacing ten per cent of current food imports with
5 locally grown food will create a total of two thousand three
6 hundred jobs. Increasing the amount of locally grown food by as
7 little as ten per cent could keep hundreds of millions of
8 dollars circulating within Hawaii's economy, stimulate growth,
9 and create thousands of new jobs. Such diversification would
10 help make Hawaii's economy more resilient to worldwide events.

11 The legislature further finds that increasing local
12 production will ensure that Hawaii has food sources that will be
13 more stable when faced with global supply disruptions,
14 increasing global demand and shortages of commodities, and
15 potential global food scarcities.

16 The office of planning, in cooperation with the department
17 of agriculture, issued a report in October 2012, entitled
18 "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy: A
19 State Strategic/Functional Plan Prepared in Accordance with HRS
20 Chapter 226 Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii Comprehensive
21 Economic Development Strategy". The executive summary of the



1 report states in pertinent part, "The purpose of the *Increased*
2 *Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy (Strategy)* is
3 to increase the amount of locally grown food consumed by Hawaii
4 residents. This will increase food self-sufficiency which is a
5 component of food security. The Strategy is a living document
6 intended as a first step toward continued dialog and
7 implementation".

8 The three strategic objectives of the increased food
9 security and food self-sufficiency strategy are increasing
10 demand for and access to locally grown foods, increasing
11 production of locally grown foods, and providing policy and
12 organizational support to meet food self-sufficiency needs.

13 The purpose of this Act is to implement the recommendations
14 of the increased food security and food self-sufficiency
15 strategy by:

- 16 (1) Establishing state planning and policy objectives for
17 the economy of increased demand for and access to
18 locally grown foods and increased production of
19 locally grown foods; and
20 (2) Making various appropriations accordingly.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 **"§141- Agricultural development and food resiliency**
5 **program; establishment.** There is established within the
6 department of agriculture an agricultural development and food
7 resiliency program that shall have the objectives described in
8 section 226-6(a)."

9 SECTION 3. Section 226-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 "(a) Planning for the State's economy in general shall be
12 directed toward achievement of the following objectives:

- 13 (1) Increased and diversified employment opportunities to
14 achieve full employment, increased income and job
15 choice, and improved living standards for Hawaii's
16 people, while at the same time stimulating the
17 development and expansion of economic activities
18 capitalizing on defense, dual-use, and science and
19 technology assets, particularly on the neighbor
20 islands where employment opportunities may be limited.



1 (2) A steadily growing and diversified economic base that
2 is not overly dependent on a few industries, and
3 includes the development and expansion of industries
4 on the neighbor islands.

5 (3) Increased demand for and access to locally grown foods
6 by:

7 (A) Expanding local marketing campaigns to promote
8 the benefits of buying local foods;

9 (B) Expanding and improving branding and labeling
10 programs and providing consumer education
11 programs to help consumers identify local
12 products at the time of purchase;

13 (C) Encouraging public institutions, including
14 schools, to purchase locally grown foods; and

15 (D) Addressing food safety issues by expanding the
16 farm food safety coaching program and number of
17 farm food safety certifiers.

18 (4) Increased production of locally grown foods, rather
19 than mainland- or foreign-grown products, by:



1 (A) Improving agricultural infrastructure, including
2 agricultural parks, irrigation systems, and
3 distribution systems and facilities;

4 (B) Supporting the agricultural park program, which
5 provides public lands at reasonable cost and
6 long-term tenure to farmers and completing the
7 transfer of agricultural lands from the
8 department of land and natural resources to the
9 department of agriculture;

10 (C) Supporting capital improvement project funding to
11 repair and maintain state irrigation systems,
12 which provide water at low cost to farmers;

13 (D) Encouraging a variety of distribution systems to
14 move goods to the market place;

15 (E) Supporting multi-functional food hub facilities
16 or food incubator facilities to handle
17 aggregation, processing, treatment, and
18 distribution; and

19 (F) Building the agricultural workforce, including
20 workforce development services for the



1 agricultural, energy, natural resources, and
2 related industries."

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
6 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
7 year 2016-2017 for the department of agriculture to establish an
8 agricultural development and food resiliency program pursuant to
9 this Act.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
11 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
15 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
16 year 2016-2017 for the department of agriculture to produce
17 product promotional materials along with other endeavors such as
18 in-store promotions.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
20 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
5 year 2016-2017 for the department of agriculture to expand and
6 improve branding and labeling programs for locally grown foods.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
12 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
13 year 2016-2017 for publicity to promote farmers markets.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
15 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
20 year 2016-2017 for a farm to school pilot program in charter
21 schools of the State.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of education for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
6 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
7 year 2016-2017 to develop good agricultural practices for school
8 gardens.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
10 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
14 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
15 year 2016-2017 for the establishment of specialists to certify
16 farm food safety.

17 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
18 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and



1 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
2 year 2016-2017 for to develop regional agriculture
3 infrastructure master plans.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
5 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2016-2017 to restore positions in food inspection, pest
11 control, and biosecurity.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
13 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 13. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
17 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
18 year 2016-2017 for to restore positions in market research and
19 agricultural statistics.

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
21 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 14. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
5 year 2016-2017 for to provide funding for research, training,
6 and education on agricultural food development and food
7 security.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
9 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 15. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
12 provided that sections 4 through 14 shall take effect on July 1,
13 2015.



Report Title:

Agricultural Development and Food Resiliency Program; Department of Agriculture; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes an agricultural development and food resiliency program. Establishes state planning objectives to increase demand and access to locally grown foods. Establishes state planning objectives to increase production of locally grown foods. Makes appropriations. (SD1)

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

