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# 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 establish a statewide  
14 agricultural development and food resiliency strategy and goals,  
15 in line with the recommendations of the increased food security  
16 and food self-sufficiency strategy.

17 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall  
18 establish a strategy and identify goals for increased food  
19 security and self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

20 (b) Through the strategy, the department shall identify  
21 goals to achieve the following:



- 1           (1)   Increasing demand for and access to locally grown  
2           foods by:
- 3           (A)   Expanding local marketing campaigns to promote  
4           the benefits of buying local foods;
- 5           (B)   Expanding and improving branding and labeling  
6           programs and providing consumer education  
7           programs to help consumers identify local  
8           products at the time of purchase;
- 9           (C)   Encouraging public institutions, including  
10          schools, to purchase locally grown foods; and
- 11          (D)   Addressing food safety issues by expanding the  
12          farm food safety coaching program and the number  
13          of farm food safety certifiers.
- 14          (2)   Increasing production of locally grown foods, rather  
15          than mainland- or foreign-grown products, by:
- 16          (A)   Improving agricultural infrastructure, including  
17          agricultural parks, irrigation systems, and  
18          distribution systems and facilities;
- 19          (B)   Supporting the agricultural park program, which  
20          provides public lands at reasonable cost and  
21          long-term tenure to farmers, and completing the



1 transfer of agricultural lands from the  
2 department of land and natural resources to the  
3 department of agriculture;

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

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

9 (E) Supporting multi-functional food hub facilities  
10 or food incubator facilities to handle  
11 aggregation, processing, treatment, and  
12 distribution; and

13 (F) Building the agricultural workforce, including  
14 workforce development services for the  
15 agricultural, energy, natural resources, and  
16 related industries.

17 (c) The department of agriculture shall identify goals  
18 that are quantitatively and qualitatively measurable and the  
19 metrics to determine progress towards the goals.

20 (d) The department of agriculture shall submit a report of  
21 its finding and recommendations, including proposed strategies,



1 goals, and metrics, to the legislature no later than twenty days  
2 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2016 for the  
3 purposes of codifying into law the statewide agricultural  
4 development and food resiliency strategy and goals.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and  
8 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
9 year 2016-2017 for the department of agriculture to produce  
10 product promotional materials along with other endeavors such as  
11 in-store promotions.

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

14 SECTION 4. 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 the department of agriculture to expand and  
19 improve branding and labeling programs for locally grown foods.

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



1       SECTION 5. 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 publicity to promote farmers markets.

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

8       SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$               or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and  
11 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
12 year 2016-2017 for a farm to school pilot program in charter  
13 schools of the State.

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

16       SECTION 7. 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 to develop good agricultural practices for school  
21 gardens.



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

3       SECTION 8. 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 establishment of specialists to certify  
8 farm food safety.

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

11       SECTION 9. 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 to develop regional agriculture infrastructure  
16 master plans.

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

19       SECTION 10. 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 to restore positions in food inspection, pest  
3 control, and biosecurity.

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

6 SECTION 11. 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 market research and  
11 agricultural statistics.

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

14 SECTION 12. 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 to provide funding for research, training, and  
19 education on agricultural food development and food security.

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



**1** SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Department of Agriculture; Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy. Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a strategy and goals for increased food security and self-sufficiency in Hawaii. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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

