
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 Hawaii has not
2 developed a plan to transition its agriculture industry, once
3 dominated by sugar and pineapple, to an industry that is
4 beneficial for diversified food crops. While diversified
5 agriculture has increased, industry experts estimate that Hawaii
6 imports approximately eighty-five to ninety per cent of the food
7 that it consumes.

8 According to a report issued in October 2012 by the office
9 of planning in cooperation with the department of agriculture,
10 entitled "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency
11 Strategy: A State Strategic/Functional Plan Prepared in
12 Accordance with HRS Chapter 226 Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii
13 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy", replacing just ten
14 per cent of the food Hawaii currently imports would retain
15 approximately \$313,000,000 in the State and generate more than
16 two thousand three hundred jobs. Investing in farmland and



1 irrigation infrastructure will bring Hawaii closer to self-
2 sufficiency, and local investments will benefit local residents.

3 The legislature further finds that the governor has set the
4 policy goal of doubling Hawaii's food production by 2020.
5 However, details on how to achieve this objective have yet to be
6 identified. Issues such as preserving agricultural land,
7 identifying food crops for local production, and improving
8 irrigation and agricultural infrastructure need immediate
9 attention so that doubling food production can become a
10 realistic objective. Implications of the federal Food Safety
11 Modernization Act, which will have significant effects on local
12 agriculture, must also be addressed. Due to the need to address
13 multiple issues in order to double local food production and
14 with 2020 less than one year away, this Act sets the goal of
15 doubling local food production by 2030.

16 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
17 agriculture, in cooperation with the office of the governor, to
18 develop a strategic plan to achieve the governor's goal of
19 doubling food production and increasing food exports by 2030.

20 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture, in
21 cooperation with the office of the governor, shall establish a



1 strategic plan that identifies benchmarks for increased food
2 production in Hawaii and increased exports of food crops and
3 value-added products from Hawaii.

4 (b) The strategic plan shall identify benchmarks that are
5 quantitatively and qualitatively measurable and the metrics to
6 determine progress toward the following goals:

- 7 (1) Doubling local food production and exports by 2030;
- 8 (2) Identifying food crops that may be grown locally to
9 replace imports and increase exports of food crops and
10 value-added products from Hawaii;
- 11 (3) Identifying lands for the production of food crops
12 that may be grown locally to replace imports, for
13 raising livestock, and for developing value-added
14 products;
- 15 (4) Developing guidance for decisions regarding land
16 acquisition, irrigation, and agricultural
17 infrastructure; and
- 18 (5) Identifying implications and effects of the federal
19 Food Safety and Modernization Act.

20 (c) The department of agriculture shall submit the
21 strategic plan, including proposed strategies, benchmarks, and



1 metrics, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature
2 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
3 session of 2020.

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the
7 purpose of developing a strategic plan outlining benchmarks to
8 achieve the goal of doubling food production and exports in the
9 State by 2030.

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

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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Report Title:

Agriculture; Increased Local Food Production; Strategic Plan;
HDOA; Governor; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, to develop a strategic plan to double local food production and increase food exports by 2030. Requires the Department of Agriculture to submit the strategic plan to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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