

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REVITALIZING ECONOMY
AND AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE.

1 WHEREAS, for Hawaii to achieve food and energy security,
2 timely and catalytic actions must be taken to establish solid
3 aina-connected foundations and provide viable pathways for
4 growers to succeed in expanding markets; and

5
6 WHEREAS, catalytic actions are coordinated efforts,
7 conducted according to the following principles:

8
9 (1) Farming needs to be profitable;

10
11 (2) Farming needs to be practical and a vital component of
12 economic and environmental recovery; and

13
14 (3) Farming needs to be a priority in order to achieve
15 food and energy security; and

16
17 WHEREAS, restorative agriculture increases local food
18 production by one hundred per cent, sustainably diversifies the
19 economy, and culturally and environmentally connects to the
20 people and eco-system of Hawaii; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture
23 Leadership (REAL) initiative is a multi-phased, catalytic change
24 initiative that empowers Hawaii farmers to become
25 self-sustaining, for-profit businesses with local, nutritional
26 grass feedstock production and direct access to local and export
27 off-taker markets; and

28
29 WHEREAS, this multi-phased, transformative initiative
30 creates entrepreneurial businesses with industry partners;
31 provides market connections to attract capital assets to Hawaii;
32 facilitates access to a sustainable food supply and feedstock
33 for ranching; promotes clean energy, restorative and precision
34 agriculture, and environmental conservation; and provides jobs
35 for skilled agricultural technology workers; and



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2 WHEREAS, the REAL initiative is currently underway and its
3 proponents are taking necessary actions with community and
4 industry partners to stabilize Hawaii's small farming businesses
5 impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the completion of the
9 initiative, and the intended timeline for the initiative is as
10 follows:
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- 12 (1) Immediate efforts, to be completed in a six-month
13 period, would concentrate on: jump-starting Hawaii's
14 agricultural economy through cost-effective,
15 restorative agriculture; stabilizing Hawaii
16 agriculture by connecting farming and ranching; and
17 keeping revenue flowing inside, rather than outside,
18 Hawaii;
19
- 20 (2) The next phase of efforts, to be completed over a
21 three-month period, would: coordinate farmers and
22 ranchers to revitalize fallow and unproductive
23 agricultural and pastoral lands; facilitate local
24 production of grass-fed beef; facilitate the export of
25 products; increase production capacity; secure proper
26 equipment; and make connections that are necessary to
27 obtain expert advice from researchers, marketers, and
28 water and conservation experts; and
29
- 30 (3) The last phase of efforts, to be completed over a
31 six-month period, would: replicate restorative
32 agriculture in farming and ranching communities and
33 groups across the State; provide technical assistance
34 in building communities of practice; and provide
35 workforce training in agricultural technology,
36 sciences, marketing, and brand thought leadership; and
37

38 WHEREAS, the timing and urgency of the initiative requires
39 immediate attention, action, and collaboration from governmental
40 regulatory agencies, landowners, and industry participants, so
41 that the initiative may;
42



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- 1 (1) Singularly or collectively obtain from the Department
2 of Hawaiian Home Lands, Department of Agriculture,
3 Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the
4 University of Hawaii a fifty-year lease on certain
5 land for purposes of production infrastructure
6 expansion, including an equipment maintenance center,
7 training hub, and grass feedstock processing center;
8
- 9 (2) Establish a grow hub structure and operations, which
10 would include a learning center from which homestead
11 farming and ranching businesses would receive
12 technical assistance and essential wrap-around service
13 support for marketing, branding, fiscal management and
14 operational support from federal agencies (including
15 the United States Small Business Administration);
16 state agencies (including the Department of Hawaiian
17 Home Lands; Department of Agriculture; Department of
18 Land and Natural Resources; Department of Business,
19 Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness
20 Development Corporation; and College of Tropical
21 Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of
22 Hawaii at Manoa); non-profit organizations (including
23 the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center and Sovereign
24 Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations);
25 Kamehameha Schools; and energy, food, and restaurant
26 industry organizations;
27
- 28 (3) Establish farmer and rancher grow hub resources to
29 increase access to local soil and water testing
30 resources, nutritional trials, researchers, and
31 entities that are necessary to meet industry timelines
32 for soil and water resource management and validation
33 and promotion of Hawaii-sourced products (including
34 the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Department of
35 Agriculture, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
36 Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and
37 Hawaii Agriculture Research Center); and
38
- 39 (4) Coordinate and access assistance from state agencies
40 to support the successful implementation and
41 diversification of state economic development into



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1 restorative agriculture and the eco-system management
2 of land, water, and the environment; now, therefore,
3

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
6 that the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, or the
7 Chairperson's designee, is requested to convene and serve as the
8 chair of a Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership
9 Working Group; and
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are
12 requested to serve as members of the Revitalizing Economy and
13 Agriculture Leadership Working Group:
14

- 15 (1) The Administrator of the United States Small Business
16 Administration, or the Administrator's designee;
17
- 18 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the
19 Chairperson's designee;
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- 21 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
22 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
23
- 24 (4) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
25 Tourism, or the Director's designee;
26
- 27 (5) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
28 Agribusiness Development Corporation, or the
29 Chairperson's designee;
30
- 31 (6) The Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative
32 Extension at the College of Tropical Agriculture and
33 Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa,
34 or the Dean and Director's designee;
35
- 36 (7) The Mayor of each of the the several counties, or
37 their respective designees; provided that if any Mayor
38 declines to be a member of the working group and
39 declines to appoint a designee to the working group,
40 the Chairperson of the respective County Council or
41 the Chairperson's designee is requested to serve on
42 the working group;



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- (8) The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, or the Chairperson's designee;
- (9) The President of the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, or the President's Designee;
- (10) The Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations, or the Chairperson's designee;
- (11) Representatives of energy, food, and restaurant industry organizations invited by the chair of the working group; and
- (12) Other stakeholders who may be invited by the chair of the working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership Working Group is requested to consider and develop recommendations regarding the implementation of the Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership initiative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit its recommendations and any proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved on June 30, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the United States Small Business Administration; Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative Extension at the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Mayor of the County of Maui; Mayor of the County of Hawaii; Mayor of the

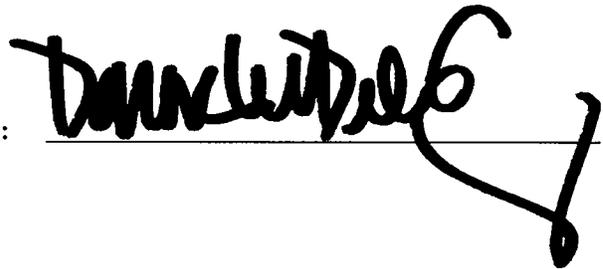


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1 County of Kauai; Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council;
2 Chairperson of the Maui County Council; Chairperson of the
3 Hawaii County Council; Chairperson of the Kauai County Council;
4 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Kamehameha Schools
5 Bishop Estate; President of the Hawaii Agriculture Research
6 Center; and Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
7 Homestead Associations.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A large, bold, handwritten signature in black ink is written over the signature line. The signature is highly stylized and appears to be a name starting with 'D' and ending with 'G'.