



**GOV. MSG. NO. 1238**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

June 27, 2022

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,  
Speaker and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 27, 2022, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2986 SD1 HD2 CD1

RELATING TO HEMP.  
**ACT 137**

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEMP.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that hemp is a high-value  
2 crop that has the potential to bring significant and diverse  
3 revenues to Hawaii. Hemp has over fifty thousand recognized  
4 uses including as a fuel; a food, including the seeds, oil,  
5 juice from leaves, and herbal tinctures; and fiber used in  
6 supercapacitors, cloth, building materials, and bioplastic.  
7 Hemp has significant potential to be a lucrative crop for Hawaii  
8 farmers and support food security for the State. Many Hawaii  
9 farms subsidize food production with non-farming income or jobs.  
10 Hemp could provide farm-based income for farmers to expand or  
11 stabilize their food production.

12           The legislature further finds, however, that Hawaii's hemp  
13 industry remains in a nascent stage largely due to  
14 overregulation, which has stifled the State's hemp industry.  
15 The Hawaii hemp cannabinoid and cannabidiol market is  
16 approximated to be \$32,000,000 to \$54,000,000 annually, but most  
17 of that money goes to hemp producers outside the State due to  
18 prohibitions banning Hawaii farmers from making and selling



1 these products in the State. Moreover, overregulation of  
2 production and processing has driven many hemp farmers out of  
3 business in the State, which makes Hawaii farmers non-  
4 competitive in the hemp market.

5 The legislature further finds that the Agriculture  
6 Improvement Act of 2018, informally known as the 2018 Farm Bill,  
7 legalized hemp by removing hemp from the definition of  
8 "marihuana" contained in the federal Controlled Substances Act.  
9 Therefore, hemp is no longer classified as an illegal drug under  
10 federal law. In October 2019, the United States Department of  
11 Agriculture established new regulations through which states may  
12 monitor and regulate hemp production. In light of these federal  
13 reforms, state laws regarding hemp should also be reformed. The  
14 legislature remains committed to reform hemp laws but recognizes  
15 that the interested parties and agencies need to continue their  
16 efforts to arrive at an appropriate balance in the governing  
17 regulations. Therefore, the legislature finds that the sunset  
18 date must be extended while those remaining issues are thoroughly  
19 resolved.

20 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to extend the  
21 sunset date of Act 14, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, which



1 establishes the state hemp processors and commercial hemp  
2 production laws.

3 SECTION 2. Act 14, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, is amended  
4 by amending section 9 to read as follows:

5 "SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,  
6 and shall be repealed on [~~June 30, 2022~~] July 1, 2025; provided  
7 that the definition of "marijuana" in section 329-1, Hawaii  
8 Revised Statutes, and the definitions of "marijuana" and  
9 "marijuana [~~Concentrate~~] concentrate" in section 712-1240,  
10 Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in the form in which  
11 they read on the day prior to the effective date of this Act."

12 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 2986  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 2  
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 27th day of June, 2022

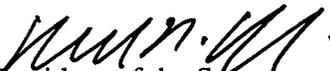
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ige". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I**

Date: May 3, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2022.

  
President of the Senate

  
Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2986, SD 1, HD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 3, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives