



GOV. MSG. NO. 1433

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

July 12, 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 July 12, 2022, the following bill was signed into law:

SB3197 SD2 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.  
**ACT 304**

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

THE SENATE  
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022  
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 3197  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 1

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# 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 it is necessary to  
2 support beginning farmers in the State. The legislature  
3 believes that a farmer apprentice mentoring program could  
4 increase farming in the State, ensure the continued use of well  
5 developed farming methods, and provide for the cultivation of  
6 new farming methods.

7           The legislature acknowledges that new and aspiring farmers  
8 face a myriad of challenges, including acquiring adequate  
9 production and business knowledge and skills and accessing the  
10 tools necessary to evaluate their resources and develop feasible  
11 farming and business plans. However, the State lacks qualified  
12 farming method teachers and funding for beginning farmer  
13 training. Further, although the United States Department of  
14 Agriculture provides funding for beginning farmers, this funding  
15 is limited and unreliable.

16           The legislature believes that the future of the State's  
17 farming industry, food supply, and agriculture is reliant upon  
18 increasing and diversifying the number of new farmers in the



1 State; introducing regenerative farming methods into the State;  
2 enhancing the long-term viability of farm businesses; utilizing  
3 and building upon existing beginning farmer training methods;  
4 providing opportunities for potential farmers who are socially  
5 or financially disadvantaged; and increasing support for  
6 beginning farmers who already own or manage a farm, and have  
7 farmed for five years or less.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the  
9 farmer apprentice mentoring program, to be administered by the  
10 department of agriculture.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
13 designated and to read as follows:

14 "§141- Farmer apprentice mentoring program; established.

15 (a) There is established the farmer apprentice mentoring  
16 program, to be administered by the department of agriculture to  
17 support former mentors in training apprentices.

18 (b) Subject to the availability of funding, the department  
19 of agriculture may enter into contracts with qualified farmer  
20 mentorship providers on a first-come, first-served basis, and in



1 accordance with section 103D-304, to effectuate the purposes of  
2 this section.

3 (c) A qualified farmer mentorship provider that provides  
4 services pursuant to this section shall make available for  
5 inspection and examination by the department of agriculture  
6 during regular business hours all relevant training and  
7 mentoring materials, sites, and facilities.

8 (d) The department of agriculture shall submit a report to  
9 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
10 of each regular session. The report shall include, at a  
11 minimum:

12 (1) The number of farmer apprentices enrolled in the  
13 farmer apprentice mentoring program during the  
14 preceding year;

15 (2) A listing of each qualified farmer mentorship  
16 provider;

17 (3) An assessment of the ability of farmer mentorship  
18 providers participating in the program to complete any  
19 program objectives and work tasks identified by the  
20 department of agriculture; and



1           (4) An evaluation of the results achieved by the program,  
2           to be written, to the extent possible, in measurable  
3           and quantifiable terms."

4           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000 or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to  
7 establish and implement the farmer apprentice mentoring program  
8 pursuant to section 2 of this Act to provide mentoring to farmer  
9 apprentices on a whole farm system approach to agriculture.

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

12           SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

13           SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



S.B. NO. 3197  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 12th day of July, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David I. Ige". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

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. 3197, SD 2, HD 1, 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