



GOV. MSG. NO. 1442

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

July 13, 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:

RE: SB2218 SD1 HD1 CD2

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the State Constitution, SB2218 SD1 HD1 CD2, entitled "RELATING TO A FOOD HUB PILOT PROGRAM." became law without my signature as ACT 313, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022, on July 13, 2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Y. Ige".

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Governor's signature JUL 13 2022

THE SENATE  
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022  
STATE OF HAWAII

**S.B. NO.** 2218  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 2

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A FOOD HUB PILOT PROGRAM.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's food  
2 security may be strengthened by growing more food locally and  
3 increasing access to local food. This endeavor may be supported  
4 by establishing food hubs, which are centrally located  
5 facilities having a business management structure that  
6 facilitates aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and  
7 marketing of locally produced food products. By actively  
8 coordinating these activities along the value chain, food hubs  
9 may provide wider access to institutional and retail markets for  
10 small- to mid-sized producers and increase consumer access to  
11 fresh healthy food, including those consumers in underserved  
12 areas and food deserts.

13       The legislature also finds that food hubs encounter  
14 financial obstacles when seeking to launch or expand their  
15 operations. Therefore, a funding source is needed to support  
16 the establishment and growth of food hubs on a scale that meets  
17 demand by state institutions such as schools, hospitals, and  
18 correctional facilities.



1       Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a  
2       five-year food hub pilot program under the department of  
3       agriculture and appropriate funds for the program.

4       SECTION 2. (a) There is established a five-year food hub  
5       pilot program, which shall be administered by the department of  
6       agriculture.

7       (b) The food hub pilot program shall:

8       (1) Adopt the United States Department of Agriculture's  
9       working definition of "food hub", which means "a  
10       centrally located facility with a business management  
11       structure facilitating the aggregation, storage,  
12       processing, distribution, and/or marketing of  
13       locally/regionally produced food products"; and

14       (2) Award grant funding to qualified applicants for the  
15       construction of critical infrastructure to establish  
16       and expand food hubs in each of the counties,  
17       including:

18       (A) Construction or improvement of facilities for  
19       aggregation, washing, minimal processing,  
20       packaging, cold storage, and other  
21       value-additions; and



1 (B) Provision of technical assistance to develop  
2 in-state capacity to supply state institutions  
3 and other markets.

4 (c) The department of agriculture shall establish criteria  
5 for the award of initial start-up grant funding or subsequent  
6 expansion funding under the food hub pilot program, including  
7 the following provisions:

8 (1) Priority shall be given to organizations having  
9 demonstrated experience in aggregation, washing,  
10 minimal processing, packaging, cold storage, and other  
11 value-additions for delivering local produce to local  
12 markets;

13 (2) Qualifying applicants shall include corporations,  
14 limited liability companies, partnerships, sole  
15 proprietorships, non-profit organizations, and  
16 agricultural cooperatives that meet necessary  
17 insurance requirements and provide a certificate of  
18 vendor compliance with Hawaii compliance express;

19 (3) Applicants seeking to establish a new food hub where  
20 none currently exist shall first secure a physical  
21 location for the food hub and draft a detailed plan



1           for the food hub's operation, including activities in  
2           which the applicant intends to engage, such as serving  
3           as a marketplace for buying and selling, or providing  
4           certified kitchen space in which multiple farmers may  
5           share use of facilities for value-added product  
6           development; and

7           (4) Applicants shall explain their intended actions to  
8           increase access to locally produced food.

9           (d) The department of agriculture shall require that the  
10          receipt of grant funding pursuant to the food hub pilot program  
11          be conditioned upon the recipient's compliance with all  
12          applicable state and federal food safety laws, rules, and  
13          regulations, including the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act,  
14          P.L. 111-353, and that Act's provisions on supplier  
15          verification.

16          (e) The department of agriculture shall adopt rules  
17          pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the  
18          administration and operation of the food hub pilot program.

19          (f) The food hub pilot program under this section shall  
20          terminate on June 30, 2027.



1       SECTION 3. (a) The department of agriculture shall submit  
2 interim reports on:

3       (1) The department's progress in implementing this Act;

4       (2) Preliminary results of the food hub pilot program; and

5       (3) The department's findings and recommendations,

6               including any proposed legislation,

7 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the

8 convening of the regular sessions of 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026.

9       (b) The department of agriculture shall submit a final

10 report of its findings and recommendations, including any

11 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty

12 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2027. The

13 report shall include the results of the food hub pilot program

14 and a recommendation as to whether the program should be made

15 permanent, with or without modifications.

16       SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general

17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much

18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the

19 establishment of a five-year food hub pilot program, including

20 the awarding of grant moneys to qualifying food hubs.



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

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



S.B. NO. 2218  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 2


APPROVED this                      day of                      , 2022


GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**

Date: May 5, 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. 2218, SD 1, HD 1, CD 2

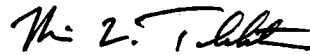
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 5, 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