
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the average age of
2 farmers in Hawaii is now over sixty years and Hawaii does not
3 have an adequate-sized farming workforce for expansion of
4 cultivated agricultural lands and food production. A primary
5 cause of the shortage of new farmers in Hawaii during the past
6 several decades is the decline in support for agriculture
7 education from the state government. This has resulted in an
8 insufficient interest in agriculture and natural resource
9 management among youth. Moreover, prospective farmers face
10 limited access to land and a need for a more diverse skill set
11 than in the past.

12 The legislature finds that to meet the State's aspirations
13 for increased food security and self-sufficiency, the number of
14 local farms and farmers and the amount of food produced for
15 local markets will need to increase significantly. Agriculture
16 education is key to the development of future farmers and to a
17 society that values and understands the vital role of



1 agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resource systems in
2 advancing personal, local, and global well-being. During the
3 past decade, a vibrant grassroots movement in support of
4 agriculture education has emerged in Hawaii, along with a marked
5 increase in new farmer training programs and student involvement
6 in Future Farmers of America.

7 The legislature further finds that to encourage this
8 momentum, the Hawaii state senate passed Senate Resolution No.
9 80, Regular Session of 2015, that requested the University of
10 Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human
11 resources to convene a working group to develop a coordinated
12 framework of support for preschool through post-secondary
13 agriculture education. The group's final report to the 2019
14 legislature outlined a coordinated framework of support for
15 agriculture education in Hawaii and asserted that implementation
16 of the framework will require that an agriculture education
17 coordinator position be established within the University of
18 Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human
19 resources.

20 The purpose of this Act is to establish and fund an
21 agriculture education coordinator position within the University



1 of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human
2 resources to oversee ongoing communication and collaboration of
3 the agriculture education working group and to lead the
4 implementation plan for a coordinated framework of support for
5 agriculture education in Hawaii.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
8 and to read as follows:

9 "§304A- P-20 agriculture education coordinator. There
10 is established within the University of Hawaii at Manoa college
11 of tropical agriculture and human resources the position of
12 coordinator of preschool through post-secondary (P-20)
13 agriculture education to oversee ongoing communication and
14 collaboration of the P-20 agriculture education working group
15 and to lead implementation of the coordinated framework of
16 support for P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii."

17 SECTION 3. The P-20 agriculture education coordinator and
18 working group shall carry out the implementation plan for the
19 coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture education
20 in Hawaii as follows:



- 1 (1) Teacher development: Prioritize teacher training in
2 agriculture and food systems education at all levels
3 (P-20) for those preparing to become teachers ("pre-
4 service teachers"), as well as additional professional
5 development for those already in classrooms ("in-
6 service teachers");
- 7 (2) Curricular integration: Integrate agriculture
8 education into the core curriculum in all subject
9 areas at all levels (P-20);
- 10 (3) Agriculture educators: Establish and fund positions
11 at the state, community, and school levels that
12 directly support teacher development and curricular
13 integration around agriculture and food systems; and
- 14 (4) Capacity building:
- 15 (A) Continue communication and collaboration of the
16 P-20 agriculture education working group and
17 subcommittees;
- 18 (B) Plan and conduct ongoing needs assessments and
19 progress evaluations;
- 20 (C) Cultivate new partnerships and seek alignment
21 with other relevant initiatives, including the



1 department of labor and industrial relations

2 agriculture workforce advisory group;

3 (D) Identify and write proposals for additional

4 sources of funding; and

5 (E) Oversee publication of an annual report to the

6 legislature.

7 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
10 establish and fund a P-20 agriculture education coordinator
11 position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of
12 tropical agriculture and human resources to oversee ongoing
13 communication and collaboration of the P-20 agriculture
14 education working group and to lead the implementation plan for
15 a coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture
16 education in Hawaii.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
18 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

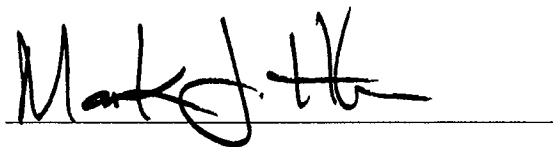
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1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 21 2022



H.B. NO. 1725

Report Title:

University of Hawaii; P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator;
Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and appropriates funds for the P-20 Agriculture Education Coordinator position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Specifies duties of the Coordinator and P-20 agriculture education working group.

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