

JAN 21 2022

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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, as the demand for  
2 unskilled labor increases, farmers and ranchers are searching  
3 for ways to use technology to better operate their farms. These  
4 farmers and ranchers could greatly benefit from foreign  
5 technology like small equipment tractors from Japan. However,  
6 they are unable to import that equipment because it does not  
7 comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's emission  
8 standards.

9           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
10 college of tropical agriculture and human resources, to work in  
11 collaboration with a University of Hawaii system community  
12 college, for a pilot program to identify and purchase foreign  
13 agricultural technology, including small equipment tractors and  
14 retrofit engines, which will benefit the State's farmers and  
15 ranchers and that complies with the Environmental Protection  
16 Agency's emission standards.



1           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to  
4 establish the foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program  
5 to:

- 6           (a) Identify and purchase foreign agricultural technology,  
7 including but not limited to small equipment tractors  
8 and retrofit engines, which will benefit the State's  
9 farmers and ranchers and comply with the Environmental  
10 Protection Agency's emission standards;
- 11           (b) Establish contact with manufacturers of small  
12 equipment in Japan and other countries;
- 13           (c) Work with the United States Environmental Protection  
14 Agency to identify federal Environmental Protection  
15 Agency standard and compliance requirements for small  
16 foreign agricultural equipment;
- 17           (d) Collaborate with agriculture and agricultural  
18 professionals from foreign countries on management  
19 practices;



- 1 (e) Bring harvesting, weed management, and field  
2 preparation machinery into the State of Hawaii for  
3 evaluation;
- 4 (f) Conduct on-farm trials to evaluate the efficacy and  
5 applicability to multiple growing systems (e.g.  
6 wetland conventional, organic, forage crops, etc.)  
7 statewide; and
- 8 (g) Conduct education and training workshops statewide to  
9 update agriculture producers on available technology.

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

12 SECTION 3. The dean of the University of Hawaii college of  
13 tropical agriculture and human resources shall submit a report  
14 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
15 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
16 to the convening of the regular session of 2023 on the progress  
17 of the foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
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# S.B. NO. 2948

**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; Small Agricultural Equipment; Pilot Program; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to establish a foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program. Requires a report to the Legislature.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

