A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR AN AGRICULTURE INNOVATION CENTER.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
- 2 immediate passage in accordance with article VII, section 9, of
- 3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.
- 4 SECTION 2. The legislature finds that increasing the
- 5 consumption of locally grown food and promoting healthy eating
- 6 habits, particularly among children, are vital to healthy
- 7 families and healthy communities. In 2015, the legislature
- 8 passed Act 218, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, which created a
- 9 farm to school program, as farm to school activities have been
- 10 shown to support nutritious school food environments and
- 11 establish healthy behaviors at an early age. In 2021, the
- 12 legislature passed Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, which
- 13 established a programmatic goal that at least thirty per cent of
- 14 the food served in public schools be locally sourced by 2030.
- 15 The legislature also finds that to increase the amount of
- 16 locally grown food served in public schools, it is vital to have



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- 1 proper facilities. An agriculture innovation center would
- 2 promote locally grown food and teach students about growing food
- 3 and aspects of agriculture. An agriculture innovation center
- 4 would also enable students to pursue viable careers in
- 5 agriculture and promote the growth and consumption of locally
- 6 grown foods.
- 7 The legislature further finds that there is a proposal to
- 8 build a state-of-the-art agriculture innovation center on Kauai.
- 9 The proposed facility has the potential to provide agricultural
- 10 opportunities for students on Kauai, as well as statewide,
- 11 nationally, and internationally. Beyond growing food, students
- 12 would be taught the development of value-added products;
- 13 finance; soil research; science, technology, engineering, and
- 14 math research; and aquaculture. An agriculture innovation
- center could become a thriving hub for science, technology, 15
- 16 engineering, and math curriculum and provide career
- 17 opportunities for Hawaii's youth.
- 18 The purpose of this Act is to provide an emergency
- 19 appropriation for fiscal year 2021-2022 to build an agriculture
- 20 innovation center and create an agricultural program on Kauai.

- 1 SECTION 3. The director of finance is authorized to issue
- 2 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$ or so much
- 3 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
- 4 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2021-2022
- 5 for the purpose of building a department of education
- 6 agriculture innovation center on Kauai.
- 7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 8 education.
- 9 SECTION 4. The appropriation made for the capital
- 10 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at
- 11 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is
- 12 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation
- 13 unencumbered as of June 30, 2024, shall lapse as of that date.
- 14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2051.

Report Title:

DOE; Agriculture; Innovation; Emergency Appropriation

Description:

Provides an emergency appropriation for the department of education to build an agriculture innovation center. Effective 7/1/2051. (HD2)

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