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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GARDENS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that school gardens  
2 provide interactive, hands-on educational environments in which  
3 students learn fundamental concepts about nutrition and obesity  
4 prevention; composting and waste management techniques; and  
5 cultural and historical aspects of the local food supply.  
6 School gardens foster a better understanding and appreciation of  
7 where food comes from, how food travels from the farm to the  
8 table, and the important role of agriculture in the state and  
9 global economy. School gardens enhance many subject areas,  
10 including science, environmental education, mathematics,  
11 reading, writing, art, nutrition, physical education, history,  
12 and geography.

13           The legislature further finds that, in addition to school  
14 gardens, community gardens create welcoming and attractive  
15 neighborhoods while serving as an important outdoor recreational  
16 opportunity for residents, especially in the urban core.  
17 Community gardens have many benefits, including the promotion of



1 healthy populations, thereby reducing public health costs; the  
2 beautification of neighborhoods and public spaces, which may  
3 increase property values; and the general advancement of  
4 residents' health and welfare by encouraging a sense of  
5 community.

6 The purpose of this Act is to authorize:

- 7 (1) The department of education to develop programs that  
8 encourage the development of gardens on school  
9 property; and
- 10 (2) The Hawaii community development authority to develop  
11 programs that provide incentives to establish gardens  
12 in housing projects, communities, and schools.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§302A- Gardening programs. Notwithstanding any other  
17 law to the contrary, the department may develop programs that  
18 encourage the development of gardens on school property;  
19 provided that the college of tropical agriculture and human  
20 resources of the university of Hawaii at Manoa shall be  
21 consulted regarding best practices in gardening, including



1 vertical gardening, aquaponics, and community gardening;  
2 provided further that the growing of edible and native Hawaiian  
3 plants shall be made a priority in the school gardens."

4 SECTION 3. Section 206E-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 " ~~[f]§206E-4.5[]— Urban gardening~~ Gardening programs.

7 Notwithstanding any ~~[other provision of]~~ law~~[7]~~ to the contrary,  
8 the authority may develop programs that provide incentives for  
9 the development of ~~[housing projects that incorporate urban~~  
10 ~~gardening programs,]~~ gardens in housing projects, communities,  
11 and schools; provided that the college of tropical agriculture  
12 and human resources of the ~~[University]~~ university of Hawaii at  
13 Manoa shall be consulted regarding best practices in ~~[urban]~~  
14 gardening, including vertical gardening, aquaponics, and  
15 community gardening."

16 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

HCDA; DOE; School Gardens; Community Gardens

**Description:**

Authorizes the Department of Education to develop programs to encourage the development of gardens on school property.  
Authorizes the Hawaii Community Development Authority to develop programs that provide incentives to establish gardens in housing projects, communities, and schools. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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

