

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Act 151, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, is  
2 amended by amending sections 1 and 2 to read as follows:

3 "SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has not  
4 developed a plan to transition its agriculture industry, once  
5 dominated by sugar and pineapple, to an industry that is  
6 beneficial for diversified food crops. While diversified  
7 agriculture has increased, industry experts estimate that Hawaii  
8 imports approximately eighty-five to ninety per cent of the food  
9 that it consumes.

10 According to a report issued in October 2012 by the office  
11 of planning in cooperation with the department of agriculture,  
12 entitled "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency  
13 Strategy: A State Strategic/Functional Plan Prepared in  
14 Accordance with HRS Chapter 226 Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii  
15 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy", replacing just ten  
16 per cent of the food that Hawaii currently imports would retain  
17 approximately \$313,000,000 in the State and generate more than



1 two thousand three hundred jobs. Investing in farmland and  
2 irrigation infrastructure will bring Hawaii closer to self-  
3 sufficiency, and local investments will benefit local residents.

4 The legislature further finds that the governor has set the  
5 policy goal of doubling Hawaii's food production by 2020.  
6 However, details on how to achieve this objective have yet to be  
7 identified. Issues such as preserving agricultural land,  
8 identifying food crops for local production, and improving  
9 irrigation and agricultural infrastructure need immediate  
10 attention so that doubling food production can become a  
11 realistic objective. Implications of the federal FDA Food  
12 Safety Modernization Act, which will have significant effects on  
13 local agriculture, must also be addressed. Due to the need to  
14 address multiple issues in order to double local food production  
15 and with 2020 less than one year away, this Act sets the goal of  
16 doubling local food production by 2030.

17 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
18 agriculture, in cooperation with the office of the governor, to  
19 develop a strategic plan to achieve the governor's goal of  
20 doubling food production and increasing food exports by 2030[-]  
21 and to identify the top ten fruit and vegetable imports to the



1 State that may be commercially grown by farmers in Hawaii and  
2 recommend ways to increase their production.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture, in  
4 cooperation with the office of the governor, shall establish a  
5 strategic plan that identifies benchmarks for increased food  
6 production in Hawaii and increased exports of food crops and  
7 value-added agricultural products from Hawaii.

8 (b) The strategic plan shall identify benchmarks that are  
9 quantitatively and qualitatively measurable and the metrics to  
10 determine progress toward the following goals:

11 (1) Doubling local food production and exports by 2030;

12 (2) Identifying food crops that may be grown locally to  
13 replace imports and increase exports of food crops and  
14 value-added agricultural products from Hawaii;

15 (3) Identifying lands for:

16 (A) Producing food crops that may be grown locally to  
17 replace imports;

18 (B) Raising livestock; and

19 (C) Developing value-added agricultural products;



1 (4) Developing guidance for decisions regarding land  
2 acquisition, irrigation, and agricultural  
3 infrastructure; and

4 (5) Identifying implications and effects of the federal  
5 FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act on local food  
6 production and export.

7 (c) The department of agriculture shall submit the  
8 strategic plan, including proposed strategies, benchmarks,  
9 metrics, and any proposed legislation, to the legislature no  
10 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
11 session of 2020.

12 (d) The department of agriculture, in cooperation with the  
13 office of the governor, shall build off the findings related to  
14 subsection (b) (2) and further identify the top ten fruit and  
15 vegetable imports to the State that may be commercially grown by  
16 farmers in Hawaii, along with recommendations to increase the  
17 commercial production of those fruits and vegetables in the  
18 State. The department of agriculture shall submit a report of  
19 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
20 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
21 to the convening of the regular session of 2023."



1 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**S.B. NO.** 496  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Agricultural Import Replacements; Top Ten Fruits and Vegetables

**Description:**

Requires the department of agriculture, in cooperation with the office of the governor, to identify the top ten fruit and vegetable imports to the State that may be commercially grown by farmers in Hawaii and recommend ways to increase their production. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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

