
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEAT DONATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a need for
2 an increased protein donation capacity to feed local
3 under-resourced populations. Existing law specifically
4 prohibits the inclusion of meat as a donation; however, wild
5 game can be a significant source of protein. The inclusion of
6 wild game as a donation-eligible food resource creates a
7 beneficial outlet for food-safe meat harvested from invasive
8 species.

9 The legislature also finds that Wisconsin, Michigan, and
10 Utah offer meat donation programs that can serve as models that
11 Hawaii can assess to develop tools for long-term, sustainable,
12 management programs for invasive species. For example, Utah
13 amended its Good Samaritan law to enable the harvest of white
14 tail deer meat for donation to charities and provided an
15 exception to antemortem inspection if certain requirements and
16 conditions are met.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to amend the
2 conditions for donations to allow provision of wild meat to
3 under-resourced communities, including the homeless.

4 SECTION 2. Section 145D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by amending subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

6 "(d) The exceptions to liability specified in subsection
7 (a) shall include:

8 (1) The donation of perishable or nonperishable food that
9 has exceeded the labeled shelf life date recommended
10 by the manufacturer; ~~and~~

11 (2) The donation of farm produce; provided that the
12 good-faith donor or distributor reasonably believes
13 that the food is fit for human consumption[-]; and

14 (3) The donation of livestock or wild game meat; provided
15 that the good-faith donor harvested the meat in a
16 food-safe manner and processed the meat in accordance
17 with federal law and the distributor reasonably
18 believes that the food is fit for human consumption.

19 (e) For the purposes of this section:

20 "Donor" means any individual, food vendor, food
21 manufacturer, food distributor, grocery or convenience store,



1 charitable or nonprofit organization, butcher, meat processor,
2 or government agency that donates food to needy persons where
3 the food in question has been prepared and packaged in a
4 facility meeting all relevant food safety guidelines,
5 certifications, and requirements and has passed all food safety
6 inspections.

7 "Farm produce" means all agricultural, horticultural, and
8 vegetable produce of the soil, but does not include poultry,
9 poultry products, livestock and livestock products, aquaculture
10 and aquaculture products, and timber or timber products."

11 SECTION 3. (a) There is established within the department
12 of agriculture for administrative purposes a meat processing
13 task force to develop and implement a plan to expand the meat
14 processing capacity in the State to allow for meat from axis
15 deer and other wild game to be processed for distribution by
16 nonprofit food distribution services. The meat processing task
17 force shall be composed of the following members:

18 (1) The chairperson of the board of agriculture, or the
19 chairperson's designee;

20 (2) One member from the department of health, selected by
21 the director of health;



- 1 (3) One member from the department of business, economic
2 development, and tourism, selected by the director of
3 business, economic development, and tourism;
- 4 (4) The administrator of the division of forestry and
5 wildlife of the department of land and natural
6 resources, or the administrator's designee;
- 7 (5) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
8 resources, or the chairperson's designee;
- 9 (6) One member from the United States Environmental
10 Protection Agency who shall be invited by the
11 chairperson of the task force;
- 12 (7) Four members, one each to be appointed by the
13 respective mayors of the city and county of Honolulu
14 and the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; and
- 15 (8) Four members to be jointly selected and invited to
16 participate by the president of the senate and the
17 speaker of the house of representatives, two of whom
18 shall be selected from an environmental nonprofit
19 organization, and two of whom shall be selected from
20 an agricultural or ranching association.



1 (b) The members of the task force shall choose a
2 chairperson from among themselves.

3 (c) Task force members may recommend members with
4 appropriate specialized expertise to be added to the task force,
5 subject to the approval of the chairperson of the task force.

6 (d) The task force shall create and implement a master
7 plan to expand the meat processing capacity in the State to
8 allow for meat from axis deer and other wild game to be
9 processed for distribution by nonprofit food distribution
10 services.

11 (e) The task force shall submit reports of its findings
12 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
13 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
14 the regular sessions of 2024 and 2025.

15 (f) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2025.

16 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
20 year 2024-2025 for the meat processing task force to develop and
21 implement a master plan to expand meat processing capacity in



1 the State to allow for wild game to be distributed by nonprofit
2 food distribution services.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
4 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Meat Processing Capacity; Expansion;
Food Distribution Services; Task Force; Appropriation

Description:

Provides for donation of wild game to under-resourced communities. Establishes a task force for development and implementation to expand meat processing capacity in the State. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (SD1)

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