THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO.660

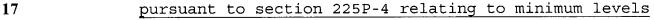
JAN 202023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1	SECT	ION 1. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately	
3	designated and to read as follows:	
4	" <u>§14</u>	1- Healthy soils program; established. (a) The
5	departmen	t of agriculture shall establish a healthy soils
6	program.	The healthy soils program shall:
7	(1)	Create a statewide soil health assessment with a list
8		of practices specific to the State and that are most
9	2	effective in improving soil health and building soil
10		carbon stocks;
11	(2)	Provide farmers with education and technical
12		assistance to implement farm management practices that
13		contribute to healthy soils;
14	(3)	Establish standards that apply to the healthy soils
15		program and are based on the findings of the
16		greenhouse gas sequestration task force established





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1		of soil carbon and water content and required soil	
2		health practices; and	
3	(4)	Subject to available funding, issue awards and other	
4		financial incentives to implement farm management	
5		practices that contribute to healthy soils.	
6	(b)	The long-term goals of the healthy soils program shall	
7	be to est	ablish:	
8	(1)	Deadlines by which all awards issued by the department	
9		of agriculture shall meet the standards established	
10		pursuant to subsection (a)(3);	
11	(2)	Deadlines by which a plan for all state lands leased	
12		for agricultural use shall be required; and	
13	(3)	Programs incentivizing small farmers, ranchers, and	
14		landowners to take carbon negative actions on their	
15		respective lands.	
16	(c)	The department of agriculture shall submit a report	
17	detailing	the status and progress of the healthy soils program	
18	and its recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to		
19	the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening		
20	of each regular session."		



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1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the 4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 5 2024-2025 for the establishment of the healthy soils program and 6 to issue awards and other financial incentives pursuant to the 7 program. 8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department 9 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act. 10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored. 11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023. 12

INTRODUCED BY: Mile Arbberl



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Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Healthy Soils Program; Carbon Sequestration; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a Healthy Soils Program. Appropriates funds.

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

