
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, according to the
2 Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program,
3 Hawaii is the most geographically isolated state in the country
4 and imports approximately ninety-two per cent of its food. Each
5 food product imported to Hawaii is a lost opportunity for
6 building economic growth in the agricultural sector, increasing
7 resiliency in the face of future supply chain disruptions, and
8 attaining state goals for local food production, including
9 benchmarks for Hawaii's farm-to-school program, food purchasing
10 by state agencies, and food hubs.

11 The United States Department of Agriculture created the
12 GroupGAP program in 2015 to assist small farms with attaining
13 Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification. GroupGAP
14 reduces the cost of food safety certification by spreading the
15 training, technical assistance, and auditing costs between all
16 farms in the group. Hawaii GroupGAP is the only comprehensive
17 farm food safety training program in Hawaii that results in



1 United States Department of Agriculture harmonized GAP
2 certification, the standard most closely aligned with the Food
3 and Drug Administration's food safety guidelines.

4 In recognizing the need for more locally produced food, the
5 legislature passed Act 136, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, which
6 required the department of agriculture to partner with the
7 agricultural community to establish a food safety certification
8 training program, and appropriated funds for the training
9 program. However, the funds appropriated were directed in full
10 to the University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and
11 human resources, which does not have a United States Department
12 of Agriculture GroupGAP food safety training and certification
13 program. The legislature finds that in order for a GroupGAP
14 food safety training and certification program to be
15 established, an additional appropriation must be made.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
17 funds for the establishment of a GroupGAP food safety training
18 and certification program.

19 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the



1 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
2 2024-2025 for the department of agriculture to establish and
3 implement, under general administration for agriculture, a
4 GroupGAP food safety training and certification program.

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

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

8

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 25 2023



H.B. NO. 1350

Report Title:

Food and Drug Administration; Food Safety Modernization Act; Certification; Training; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to establish and implement a GroupGAP food safety training and certification program.

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

