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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the agricultural  
2 economy has shifted significantly since the establishment of the  
3 Hawaii State Planning Act. Sugarcane and pineapple are no  
4 longer dominant industries, even though they had represented the  
5 majority of agricultural output for the State. By updating  
6 certain legacy statutes, the legislature recognizes the value of  
7 diversified agriculture across the State and its support to grow  
8 that industry.

9           The purpose of this Act is to update the Hawaii State  
10 Planning Act objectives, policies, and priority guidelines for  
11 the agricultural economy.

12           SECTION 2. Section 226-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14           "(a) Planning for the State's economy with regard to  
15 agriculture shall be directed towards achievement of the  
16 following objectives:

17           ~~[(1) Viability of Hawaii's sugar and pineapple industries.]~~



1       ~~(2)~~ (1) Growth and development of diversified agriculture  
2                   throughout the State.

3       ~~(3)~~ (2) An agriculture industry that continues to  
4                   constitute a dynamic and essential component of  
5                   Hawaii's strategic, economic, and social well-being."

6       SECTION 3. Section 226-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8       "**§226-103 Economic priority guidelines.** (a) Priority  
9 guidelines to stimulate economic growth and encourage business  
10 expansion and development to provide needed jobs for Hawaii's  
11 people and achieve a stable and diversified economy:

12       (1) Seek a variety of means to increase the availability  
13                   of investment capital for new and expanding  
14                   enterprises.

15       (A) Encourage investments which:

16                   (i) Reflect long-term commitments to the State;

17                   (ii) Rely on economic linkages within the local  
18                   economy;

19                   (iii) Diversify the economy;

20                   (iv) Reinvest in the local economy;



- 1                   (v) Are sensitive to community needs and
- 2                   priorities; and
- 3                   (vi) Demonstrate a commitment to provide
- 4                   management opportunities to Hawaii
- 5                   residents; and
- 6           (B) Encourage investments in innovative activities
- 7           that have a nexus to the State, such as:
- 8           (i) Present or former residents acting as
- 9           entrepreneurs or principals;
- 10           (ii) Academic support from an institution of
- 11           higher education in Hawaii;
- 12           (iii) Investment interest from Hawaii residents;
- 13           (iv) Resources unique to Hawaii that are required
- 14           for innovative activity; and
- 15           (v) Complementary or supportive industries or
- 16           government programs or projects.
- 17   (2) Encourage the expansion of technological research to
- 18   assist industry development and support the
- 19   development and commercialization of technological
- 20   advancements.



- 1           (3)    Improve the quality, accessibility, and range of  
2                    services provided by government to business, including  
3                    data and reference services and assistance in  
4                    complying with governmental regulations.
- 5           (4)    Seek to ensure that state business tax and labor laws  
6                    and administrative policies are equitable, rational,  
7                    and predictable.
- 8           (5)    Streamline the processes for building and development  
9                    permit and review and telecommunication infrastructure  
10                   installation approval and eliminate or consolidate  
11                   other burdensome or duplicative governmental  
12                   requirements imposed on business, where scientific  
13                   evidence indicates that public health, safety, and  
14                   welfare would not be adversely affected.
- 15          (6)    Encourage the formation of cooperatives and other  
16                   favorable marketing or distribution arrangements at  
17                   the regional or local level to assist Hawaii's small-  
18                   scale producers, manufacturers, and distributors.
- 19          (7)    Continue to seek legislation to protect Hawaii from  
20                   transportation interruptions between Hawaii and the  
21                   continental United States.



- 1           (8) Provide public incentives and encourage private  
2 initiative to develop and attract industries which  
3 promise long-term growth potentials and which have the  
4 following characteristics:
- 5           (A) An industry that can take advantage of Hawaii's  
6 unique location and available physical and human  
7 resources.
- 8           (B) A clean industry that would have minimal adverse  
9 effects on Hawaii's environment.
- 10          (C) An industry that is willing to hire and train  
11 Hawaii's people to meet the industry's labor  
12 needs at all levels of employment.
- 13          (D) An industry that would provide reasonable income  
14 and steady employment.
- 15          (9) Support and encourage, through educational and  
16 technical assistance programs and other means,  
17 expanded opportunities for employee ownership and  
18 participation in Hawaii business.
- 19          (10) Enhance the quality of Hawaii's labor force and  
20 develop and maintain career opportunities for Hawaii's  
21 people through the following actions:



- 1 (A) Expand vocational training in diversified  
2 agriculture, aquaculture, information industry,  
3 and other areas where growth is desired and  
4 feasible.
- 5 (B) Encourage more effective career counseling and  
6 guidance in high schools and post-secondary  
7 institutions to inform students of present and  
8 future career opportunities.
- 9 (C) Allocate educational resources to career areas  
10 where high employment is expected and where  
11 growth of new industries is desired.
- 12 (D) Promote career opportunities in all industries  
13 for Hawaii's people by encouraging firms doing  
14 business in the State to hire residents.
- 15 (E) Promote greater public and private sector  
16 cooperation in determining industrial training  
17 needs and in developing relevant curricula and  
18 [~~on-the-job~~] on-the-job training opportunities.
- 19 (F) Provide retraining programs and other support  
20 services to assist entry of displaced workers  
21 into alternative employment.



1           (b) Priority guidelines to promote the economic health and  
2 quality of the visitor industry:

3           (1) Promote visitor satisfaction by fostering an  
4 environment which enhances the aloha spirit and  
5 minimizes inconveniences to Hawaii's residents and  
6 visitors.

7           (2) Encourage the development and maintenance of well-  
8 designed, adequately serviced hotels and resort  
9 destination areas which are sensitive to neighboring  
10 communities and activities and which provide for  
11 adequate shoreline setbacks and beach access.

12          (3) Support appropriate capital improvements to enhance  
13 the quality of existing resort destination areas and  
14 provide incentives to encourage investment in  
15 upgrading, repair, and maintenance of visitor  
16 facilities.

17          (4) Encourage visitor industry practices and activities  
18 which respect, preserve, and enhance Hawaii's  
19 significant natural, scenic, historic, and cultural  
20 resources.



- 1 (5) Develop and maintain career opportunities in the  
2 visitor industry for Hawaii's people, with emphasis on  
3 managerial positions.
- 4 (6) Support and coordinate tourism promotion abroad to  
5 enhance Hawaii's share of existing and potential  
6 visitor markets.
- 7 (7) Maintain and encourage a more favorable resort  
8 investment climate consistent with the objectives of  
9 this chapter.
- 10 (8) Support law enforcement activities that provide a  
11 safer environment for both visitors and residents  
12 alike.
- 13 (9) Coordinate visitor industry activities and promotions  
14 to business visitors through the state network of  
15 advanced data communication techniques.
- 16 ~~[(c) Priority guidelines to promote the continued~~  
17 ~~viability of the sugar and pineapple industries.]~~
- 18 ~~(1) Provide adequate agricultural lands to support the~~  
19 ~~economic viability of the sugar and pineapple~~  
20 ~~industries.~~



- 1       ~~(2) Continue efforts to maintain federal support to~~  
2       ~~provide stable sugar prices high enough to allow~~  
3       ~~profitable operations in Hawaii.~~
- 4       ~~(3) Support research and development, as appropriate, to~~  
5       ~~improve the quality and production of sugar and~~  
6       ~~pineapple crops.~~
- 7       ~~(d)]~~ (c) Priority guidelines to promote the growth and  
8 development of diversified agriculture and aquaculture:
- 9       (1) Identify, conserve, and protect agricultural and  
10       aquacultural lands of importance and initiate  
11       affirmative and comprehensive programs to promote  
12       economically productive agricultural and aquacultural  
13       uses of such lands.
- 14       (2) Assist in providing adequate, reasonably priced water  
15       for agricultural activities.
- 16       (3) Encourage public and private investment to increase  
17       water supply and to improve transmission, storage, and  
18       irrigation facilities in support of diversified  
19       agriculture and aquaculture.



- 1           (4) Assist in the formation and operation of production  
2                   and marketing associations and cooperatives to reduce  
3                   production and marketing costs.
- 4           (5) Encourage and assist with the development of a  
5                   waterborne and airborne freight and cargo system  
6                   capable of meeting the needs of Hawaii's agricultural  
7                   community.
- 8           (6) Seek favorable freight rates for Hawaii's agricultural  
9                   products from interisland and overseas transportation  
10                  operators.
- 11          (7) Encourage the development and expansion of  
12                   agricultural and aquacultural activities which offer  
13                   long-term economic growth potential and employment  
14                   opportunities.
- 15          (8) Continue the development of agricultural parks and  
16                   other programs to assist small independent farmers in  
17                   securing agricultural lands and loans.
- 18          (9) Require agricultural uses in agricultural subdivisions  
19                   and closely monitor the uses in these subdivisions.
- 20          (10) Support the continuation of land currently in use for  
21                  diversified agriculture.



1 (11) Encourage residents and visitors to support Hawaii's  
2 farmers by purchasing locally grown food and food  
3 products.

4 [~~e~~] (d) Priority guidelines for water use and  
5 development:

6 (1) Maintain and improve water conservation programs to  
7 reduce the overall water consumption rate.

8 (2) Encourage the improvement of irrigation technology and  
9 promote the use of nonpotable water for agricultural  
10 and landscaping purposes.

11 (3) Increase the support for research and development of  
12 economically feasible alternative water sources.

13 (4) Explore alternative funding sources and approaches to  
14 support future water development programs and water  
15 system improvements.

16 [~~f~~] (e) Priority guidelines for energy use and  
17 development:

18 (1) Encourage the development, demonstration, and  
19 commercialization of renewable energy sources.



1           (2)   Initiate, maintain, and improve energy conservation  
2                    programs aimed at reducing energy waste and increasing  
3                    public awareness of the need to conserve energy.

4           (3)   Provide incentives to encourage the use of energy  
5                    conserving technology in residential, industrial, and  
6                    other buildings.

7           (4)   Encourage the development and use of energy conserving  
8                    and cost-efficient transportation systems.

9           ~~(g)~~ (f)   Priority guidelines to promote the development  
10 of the information industry:

11           (1)   Establish an information network, with an emphasis on  
12                    broadband and wireless infrastructure and capability,  
13                    that will serve as the foundation of and catalyst for  
14                    overall economic growth and diversification in Hawaii.

15           (2)   Encourage the development of services such as  
16                    financial data processing, a products and services  
17                    exchange, foreign language translations,  
18                    telemarketing, teleconferencing, a twenty-four-hour  
19                    international stock exchange, international banking,  
20                    and a Pacific Rim management center.



- 1           (3) Encourage the development of small businesses in the  
2           information field such as software development; the  
3           development of new information systems, peripherals,  
4           and applications; data conversion and data entry  
5           services; and home or cottage services such as  
6           computer programming, secretarial, and accounting  
7           services.
- 8           (4) Encourage the development or expansion of educational  
9           and training opportunities for residents in the  
10          information and telecommunications fields.
- 11          (5) Encourage research activities, including legal  
12          research in the information and telecommunications  
13          fields.
- 14          (6) Support promotional activities to market Hawaii's  
15          information industry services.
- 16          (7) Encourage the location or co-location of  
17          telecommunication or wireless information relay  
18          facilities in the community, including public areas,  
19          where scientific evidence indicates that the public  
20          health, safety, and welfare would not be adversely  
21          affected."



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY: *Chad Ote*  
JAN 19 2023



# H.B. NO. 325

**Report Title:**

Hawaii State Planning Act; Agriculture; Economy; Objectives;  
Priorities

**Description:**

Updates the Hawaii State Planning Act's economic agricultural objectives and policies and priority guidelines by removing references to the sugarcane and pineapple industries.

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

