
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 there is a need to
2 expand Hawaii's meat inspection capacity to fulfill local
3 demand. Consumer demand for locally grown beef, combined with
4 the axis deer population explosion in Maui county, created a
5 reduced antemortem meat inspection capacity. In addition,
6 Hawaii county requires additional inspection capacity to process
7 livestock and feral ungulates.

8 The legislature notes that the State's meat inspection
9 program was discontinued in the mid-1990s due to cuts to budget
10 and staffing mandated by reduction in force initiatives.
11 Restoring and updating the meat inspection program will not only
12 grow Hawaii's livestock industry but address the beneficial use
13 of axis deer and other ungulates. Supplementing existing
14 federal inspection capacity will also assist the livestock
15 industry with greater access to the marketplace.

16 The legislature further finds that federal laws have
17 changed, and the state meat inspection program should be



1 restored and updated to comply with new requirements, meet the
2 needs of the State's diverse livestock industry and local
3 demand, and ensure the livestock industry remains a productive
4 part of the State's economic engine. As an island state,
5 transportation costs for a limited number of inspectors can be
6 costly. Therefore, certification of local veterinarians should
7 be explored and implemented to meet additional federal
8 requirements.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 10 (1) Direct the department of agriculture to assess steps
11 necessary for the State to supplement federal
12 authority to perform meat inspections with state
13 inspectors;
- 14 (2) Direct the department of agriculture to assess steps
15 necessary to fully transfer meat inspection authority
16 from the federal government to the State; and
- 17 (3) Appropriate funds to the department of agriculture for
18 inspector positions to perform meat inspections.

19 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall assess
20 the steps necessary for the State to supplement federal
21 authority to perform meat inspections with state inspectors.



1 (b) The department of agriculture shall also assess the
2 steps necessary to fully transfer meat inspection authority from
3 the federal government to the State.

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
7 the establishment of full-time equivalent (FTE)
8 inspector positions within the department of agriculture for
9 meat inspections.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 4. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
13 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
15 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
16 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
17 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
18 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
19 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
20 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
21 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these



1 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
2 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
3 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
4 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 5 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
6 serve the public interest; and
- 7 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
8 addressed by this Act.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOA; Meat Inspections; Authority; Positions; Appropriation;
Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture to assess the steps necessary for the State to supplement federal authority to perform meat inspections within the State. Requires the Department of Agriculture to assess the steps necessary to transfer full authority over meat inspections from the federal government to the State. Appropriates funds for the establishment of inspector positions within the Department of Agriculture to perform meat inspections. Effective 7/1/3000.
(HD1)

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