
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. Consumer demand for
3 locally grown beef and the axis deer population explosion in
4 Maui county have created a lack of antemortem meat inspection
5 capacity. The State's meat inspection program was discontinued
6 in the mid-1990s due to cuts in budget and staffing mandated by
7 reduction-in-force directives. Restoring and updating the meat
8 inspection program will not only grow Hawaii's livestock
9 industry but address the beneficial use of axis deer.
10 Supplementing existing federal inspection capacity will also
11 provide the livestock industry with greater access to the
12 marketplace.

13 The legislature further finds that federal laws have
14 changed and the state meat inspection program should be restored
15 and updated to comply with new requirements, meet the needs of
16 the State's diverse livestock industry and meet the demand of
17 Hawaii consumers, and ensure the livestock industry remains a



1 productive part of Hawaii's economic engine. Because Hawaii is
2 an island state, transportation costs for a limited number of
3 inspectors can be costly. Certification of local veterinarians
4 should be explored and implemented, if possible, while meeting
5 federal requirements.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for a meat
7 inspection program and for costs for meat inspection services
8 under chapter 159, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including the
9 establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) inspector
10 program supervisor position and three full-time equivalent (3.0
11 FTE) inspector positions.

12 SECTION 2. 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 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for:

- 12 (1) A meat inspection program under chapter 159, Hawaii
13 Revised Statutes; and
- 14 (2) Costs for meat inspection services under chapter 159,
15 Hawaii Revised Statutes, including the establishment
16 of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) inspector
17 program supervisor position and three full-time
18 equivalent (3.0 FTE) inspector positions.

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

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.



Report Title:

DOA; Meat Inspection; Meat Processing; Inspectors; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture for a meat inspection program and for costs for meat inspection services, including one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) inspector program supervisor position and three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) inspectors. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. (SD1)

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