
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION AND
FOOD SECURITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of
2 agriculture's 2020 report entitled, "Report on the Strategic
3 Plan to Double Local Food Production and Exports by 2030",
4 prepared in accordance with Act 151, Session Laws of Hawaii
5 2019, provides suggested actions to achieve substantial
6 individual or cumulative increases in local food production and
7 export. This strategic plan must be updated with supplemental
8 benchmarks to measure progress toward goals quantitatively and
9 qualitatively and to address the changing landscape of the
10 agriculture industry, including the changes sustained by the
11 global and local food systems due to the coronavirus disease
12 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

13 The legislature further finds that it is an urgent
14 necessity for Hawaii to be more food secure. The COVID-19
15 pandemic showed the fragility of the State's food system as food
16 manufacturing plants throughout the world shut down, shipping



1 lessened, and food shortages were experienced by retailers and
2 consumers. Unprecedented stresses were observed on the
3 production, processing, transportation, and consumption of food
4 and food-related items.

5 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
6 agriculture to update and supplement the strategic plan to
7 increase Hawaii's food production and food security.

8 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture, in
9 cooperation with the office of the governor, shall update and
10 supplement the strategic plan pursuant to Act 151, Session Laws
11 of 2019, to:

- 12 (1) Set goals to increase the State's food production;
- 13 (2) Further establish food export markets to increase
14 Hawaii's food security; and
- 15 (3) Identify benchmarks for increased food production in
16 the State and increased exports of food crops and
17 value-added agricultural products from the State.

18 (b) The updated strategic plan shall include a phased
19 framework; actions that minimize financial risk to Hawaii
20 producers; baseline data; and specific, measurable, achievable,
21 relevant, time-bound goals.



1 (c) The following shall be incorporated into the strategic
2 plan:

3 (1) Calculating the additional costs of developing land
4 transferred from the department of land and natural
5 resources to the department of agriculture for
6 agricultural use;

7 (2) Providing seed, seedlings, and trees that are virus-,
8 disease-, and drought-resistant to new farmers and
9 farmers expanding production;

10 (3) Determining the infrastructure funding needs for food
11 distribution hubs that purchase more from local
12 farmers and ranchers to increase refrigeration,
13 packing, and storage;

14 (4) Supporting aquacultural operations to increase food
15 production for local markets; and

16 (5) Determining costs to fund the Hawaii healthy food
17 incentive program, established in section 141-13,
18 Hawaii Revised Statutes, and expand the program to
19 larger demographics to include seniors, teachers, and
20 first responders.



1 SECTION 3. The department of agriculture, in cooperation
2 with the office of the governor, shall submit a report on the
3 updated strategic plan to increase production and food security
4 to the legislature, including findings, recommendations, and any
5 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
6 convening of the regular session of 2025.

7 SECTION 4. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
8 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
9 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
10 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
11 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
12 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
13 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
14 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
15 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
16 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
17 ceiling are that:

18 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
19 serve the public interest; and

20 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
21 addressed by this Act.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$600,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to fund an
4 updated strategic plan as provided in this Act.

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

7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.



Report Title:

DOA; Food Production; Food Security; Updated Strategic Plan;
Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, to update and supplement the 2020 strategic plan to increase Hawaii's food production and food security. Requires the Department of Agriculture to submit a report to the Legislature 20 days prior to 2025 Regular Session. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

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

