
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF NON-AGRICULTURAL PARK LANDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 90, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2003 (Act 90), was enacted to transfer certain non-
3 agricultural park lands from the department of land and natural
4 resources to the department of agriculture.

5 The legislature further finds that Act 139, Session Laws of
6 Hawaii 2021, established a working group to determine the
7 process, status, challenges, and potential remedies regarding
8 the transfer of non-agricultural park lands to fulfill the
9 purposes of Act 90. A key finding of the working group is that
10 lands under the department of land and natural resources used
11 for the primary and substantial management objective of
12 agricultural production should be transferred to the department
13 of agriculture, following the processes and conditions pursuant
14 to Act 90.

15 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
16 agriculture to accept the transfer of and manage certain
17 qualifying non-agricultural park lands.



1 SECTION 2. Section 166E-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§166E-1[+] **Legislative findings.** The legislature
4 finds that article XI, section 10, of the [~~state constitution~~]
5 Hawaii State Constitution establishes that "the public lands
6 shall be used for the development of farm and [~~homeownership~~]
7 home ownership on as widespread a basis as possible, in
8 accordance with procedures and limitations prescribed by law."

9 Therefore, the legislature finds that certain public lands
10 classified for agricultural use, including all lands designated
11 as intensive agricultural use, special livestock use, and
12 pasture use under section 171-10(1), (2), and (3), by the
13 department of land and natural resources should be transferred
14 to the department of agriculture[, ~~with the approval of the~~
15 ~~board of land and natural resources and the board of~~
16 ~~agriculture,~~] for purposes and in a manner consistent with
17 article XI, section 10, of the [~~state constitution.~~] Hawaii
18 State Constitution.

19 The purpose of this chapter is to ensure the long-term
20 productive use of public lands leased or available to be leased
21 by the department of land and natural resources for agricultural



1 purposes, including pasture use, by allowing these lands to be
2 transferred to and managed by the department of agriculture."

3 SECTION 3. Section 166E-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) Upon [~~mutual agreement and~~] approval of the board
6 [~~and the board of land and natural resources~~]:

7 (1) The department [~~may~~] shall accept the transfer of and
8 manage certain qualifying non-agricultural park
9 lands[+], subject to the suitability of the land for
10 agricultural activities and use as determined by the
11 board; and

12 (2) Certain assets, including position counts, related to
13 the management of existing encumbered and unencumbered
14 non-agricultural park lands and related facilities
15 shall be transferred to the department[-];

16 provided that designated conservation lands not in current
17 agricultural use shall remain under the jurisdiction of the
18 department of land and natural resources."

19 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
20 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
21 begun before its effective date.



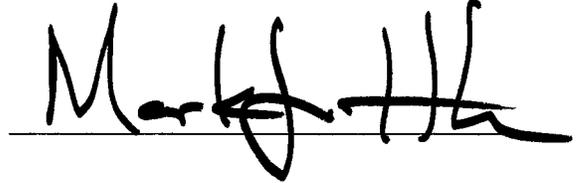
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1 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

4

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 22 2025



H.B. NO. 1323

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Non-agricultural Park Lands; Transfer

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture to accept the transfer of and manage certain qualifying non-agricultural park lands.

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