

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State is  
2 committed to promoting sustainable economic development,  
3 enhancing local food production, improving access to healthy  
4 food, promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation,  
5 minimizing food waste, and reducing food insecurity. This  
6 commitment is evident through initiatives such as:

7           (1) The Hawaii sustainability 2050 plan, which highlights  
8           Hawaii's overall economic, climate, and food  
9           system-related goals;

10          (2) Act 151, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, which mandates  
11          doubling local food production and increasing food  
12          exports by 2030; and

13          (3) Acts 175 and 176, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, which  
14          establish goals for local food procurement in schools  
15          and other government entities, with a target of fifty  
16          per cent locally sourced food by 2050.



1           Despite these efforts and more, high food insecurity and  
2 barriers to local food production in Hawaii remain. According  
3 to a recent report by the Hawaii Foodbank, nearly one-third of  
4 households are food insecure, and food insecurity rates are  
5 consistently higher than the national average. Additionally, a  
6 recent study found that only twelve per cent of households  
7 maintain a fourteen-day emergency supply of food, water, and  
8 medicine, as recommended by emergency managers.

9           The legislature further finds that achieving a sustainable,  
10 resilient, and equitable food system requires collaboration  
11 across state agencies, producers, retailers, non-governmental  
12 organizations, and community members. Such a system can enhance  
13 environmental, economic, social, and cultural health;  
14 well-being; and equity, while also helping the State respond  
15 effectively to disasters and crises. Interagency coordination  
16 and an integrated approach are essential to maximizing  
17 efficiencies and achieving impact.

18           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

19           (1) Establish a statewide interagency food systems  
20           coordination team and an interagency food systems



1 working group within the agribusiness development  
2 corporation; and

3 (2) Appropriate funds for staff within the department of  
4 business, economic development, and tourism.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
7 to read as follows:

8 "PART . INTERAGENCY FOOD SYSTEMS COORDINATION

9 §163D-A Interagency food systems coordination team. There  
10 is established within the corporation the statewide interagency  
11 food systems coordination team. The statewide interagency food  
12 systems coordination team shall coordinate and oversee the  
13 interagency food systems working group established under section  
14 163D-B and develop a process to implement interagency food  
15 systems plans and actions.

16 §163D-B Interagency food systems working group. (a)

17 There is established within the corporation an interagency food  
18 systems working group.

19 (b) The interagency food systems working group shall:

20 (1) Develop governance, decision-making, and operating  
21 protocols;



- 1 (2) Coordinate with county and community-led organizations
- 2 that are involved with food systems planning;
- 3 (3) Identify resources to support interagency food systems
- 4 coordination and implementation efforts;
- 5 (4) Develop internal and external communication processes;
- 6 (5) Create time-bound implementation plans and ways to
- 7 measure progress toward statewide food systems goals;
- 8 and
- 9 (6) Utilize policy impact analysis tools to evaluate
- 10 proposed actions.

11 (c) The interagency food systems working group shall  
12 submit a report of its activities and any recommendations,  
13 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later  
14 than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session.

15 (d) The department of business, economic development, and  
16 tourism shall provide any necessary administrative support to  
17 the statewide interagency food systems coordination team and the  
18 interagency food systems working group established under this  
19 section."

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
3 year 2026-2027 for full-time equivalent ( FTE)  
4 temporary position for the department of business, economic  
5 development, and tourism for the purposes of this Act.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
7 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes  
8 of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by section  
10 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute  
11 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
12 the new sections in this Act.

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



**Report Title:**

DBEDT; ADC; Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team; Interagency Food Systems Working Group; Reports; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and the Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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

