
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 the agricultural
2 industry in Hawaii has been significantly affected by climate
3 change, globalization, the influx of devastating invasive
4 species and diseases, market conditions, a lack of agricultural
5 workers, and various other factors. The legislature further
6 finds that the State must modernize and adapt its policies and
7 laws accordingly. The legislature also finds that unnecessary
8 or obsolete sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes are actually
9 impeding the growth and success of agriculture in Hawaii and
10 should be carefully reviewed to ensure that this important part
11 of the islands' economy and way of life can survive and thrive
12 into the future.

13 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to establish and
14 appropriate funds for a working group within the department of
15 agriculture to review and make recommendations on amending or
16 repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to
17 agriculture.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department
2 of agriculture a working group to review and make
3 recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete
4 laws pertaining to agriculture.

5 (b) The working group shall consist of the following
6 members:

- 7 (1) The chairperson of the board of agriculture, or the
8 chairperson's designee, who shall serve as the
9 chairperson of the working group;
- 10 (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
11 resources, or the chairperson's designee;
- 12 (3) The director of business, economic development, and
13 tourism, or the director's designee;
- 14 (4) The executive director of the agribusiness development
15 corporation, or the executive director's designee;
- 16 (5) A representative of the mayor of the city and county
17 of Honolulu;
- 18 (6) A representative of the mayor of the county of Hawaii;
- 19 (7) A representative of the mayor of the county of Kauai;
- 20 (8) A representative of the mayor of the county of Maui;



1 (9) The executive director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau, who
2 shall be invited by the chairperson of the working
3 group;

4 (10) The executive director of the Hawaii Agriculture
5 Research Center, who shall be invited by the
6 chairperson of the working group;

7 (11) The managing director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's
8 Council, who shall be invited by the chairperson of
9 the working group; and

10 (12) The president of the Hawaii Farmers Union, who shall
11 be invited by the chairperson of the working group.

12 (c) The working group shall review and make
13 recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete
14 laws pertaining to agriculture, including:

15 (1) Restrictions on leases of state agricultural land that
16 prohibit a residence on the property;

17 (2) Restrictions on leases of state agricultural land that
18 prohibit the raising of poultry and swine on the
19 property; and

20 (3) Caps on agricultural operation loan rates.



1 (d) The issues identified in subsection (c) shall not be
2 construed to limit the laws pertaining to agriculture that the
3 working group may consider for review and recommendation.

4 (e) Members of the working group who are employed by the
5 State and serving in their official capacity on the working
6 group shall serve without compensation. Other members of the
7 working group who are not employed by the State shall receive
8 compensation for their travel expenses.

9 (f) The working group shall submit a report of its
10 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
11 legislation, regarding its review of unnecessary or obsolete
12 laws pertaining to agriculture to the legislature no later than
13 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
14 2026.

15 (g) The working group shall cease to exist on June 30,
16 2026.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 for
20 the working group established pursuant to section 2 of this Act.



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

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



H.B. NO. 782 H.D. 1

Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Working Group; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes within the Department of Agriculture a working group to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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