

JAN 23 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LAND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that strategic investment
2 in the State's agricultural sector, particularly in the north
3 Kohala district of Hawaii island, is necessary to revitalize the
4 State's agricultural industry. Despite north Kohala's fertile
5 land and abundant natural resources, the region has been
6 historically underserved, lacking the support required to
7 realize its agricultural potential. Consequently, the State
8 struggles with agricultural production and food security and
9 relies on imported goods. Investment in this region would
10 alleviate these challenges by revitalizing the agricultural
11 industry, creating employment opportunities, and improving food
12 self-sufficiency across the State.

13 The legislature further finds that the agricultural
14 development corporation is uniquely positioned to oversee the
15 purchase, management, and responsible development of
16 agricultural lands in this region. The Halaula agricultural
17 parcel located in north Kohala offers significant potential for



1 agricultural development, including sustainable agricultural
2 practices, farming, livestock, and agroforestry. Authorizing
3 the agricultural development corporation to purchase this
4 property will stimulate economic growth, support community
5 initiatives, and revitalize the rural economy in north Kohala.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

7 (1) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to
8 the agricultural development corporation to complete
9 the purchase of the fee simple interest in the north
10 Kohala agricultural parcel identified as tax map key:

11 (3) 5-3-7:16; and

12 (2) Establish a Hawaii island property manager position
13 within the agribusiness development corporation.

14 SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue
15 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
17 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2025-2026
18 for the purpose of financing the purchase of a parcel of land
19 for agricultural development identified as tax map key: (3) 5-3-
20 7:16.



1 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated in section 2 of this Act
2 shall be expended by the agricultural development corporation
3 for the purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 4. The appropriation made for the capital
5 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at
6 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is
7 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation
8 unencumbered as of June 30, 2028, shall lapse as of that date.

9 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2026-2027 for the establishment of one full time-equivalent (1.0
14 FTE) Hawaii island property manager position within the
15 agribusiness development corporation.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the agribusiness
17 development corporation for the purposes of this Act.

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

19
INTRODUCED BY:  *Kent M. Peden* *up*



S.B. NO. 1247

Report Title:

ADC; North Kohala; GO Bonds; Agriculture; Agricultural Development; Appropriations

Description:

Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to the Agricultural Development Corporation for the purchase of an agricultural parcel for agricultural development. Establishes one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Hawaii Island Property Manager position within the ADC. Appropriates funds.

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

