
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL GRANTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§141- Conventional farming grant program. (a) There
5 is established within the department of agriculture the
6 conventional farming grant program.

7 (b) Subject to available funds, the conventional farming
8 grant program shall provide grants to small and midsize farms
9 that predominately practice conventional farming.

10 (c) Each grant application shall be evaluated by the board
11 of agriculture and shall be approved if the application
12 satisfies the following requirements:

13 (1) The applicant shall be an owner of a small farm or
14 midsize farm;

15 (2) If the applicant is an entity other than an
16 individual, the applicant shall:

17 (A) Be licensed to conduct business in the State; and



1 (B) Adopt bylaws or policies that describe the manner
2 in which business is conducted, prohibit
3 nepotism, and provide for the management of
4 potential conflicts of interest;

5 (3) The applicant shall comply with all applicable federal
6 and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any
7 person on the basis of race, color, national origin,
8 religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation,
9 disability, or any other characteristic protected
10 under applicable federal or state law;

11 (4) Grant moneys shall not be used for purposes of
12 entertainment or perquisites;

13 (5) All activities and improvements undertaken with grant
14 funds shall comply with applicable federal, state, and
15 county laws, including statutes, ordinances,
16 applicable building codes, and rules;

17 (6) The applicant shall agree to make available to the
18 department of agriculture any records relating to the
19 grant and allow state agencies to verify the
20 applicant's compliance with the purpose of this
21 section; and



1 (7) The applicant shall comply with other requirements or
2 conditions as the department of agriculture or board
3 of agriculture may prescribe.

4 (d) For the purposes of this section:

5 "Conventional farming" means growing crops from seeds that
6 have been genetically altered using any traditional breeding
7 method, excluding biotechnology, and that are not certified as
8 organic.

9 "Gross cash farm income" means the sum of the farm's crop
10 and livestock sales, government payments, and other farm-related
11 income, including fee payments from contractors.

12 "Midsize farm" means a farm having an annual gross cash
13 farm income of \$350,000 to \$999,999; provided that, upon
14 approval by the board of agriculture, the department of
15 agriculture may apply a higher annual gross cash farm income
16 amount consistent with the term "midsize farm" or "midsize
17 family farm" as defined by the United States Department of
18 Agriculture's Economic Research Service in a farm typology
19 publication or related update.

20 "Small farm" means a farm having an annual gross cash farm
21 income of less than \$350,000; provided that, upon approval by



the board of agriculture, the department of agriculture may
apply a higher annual gross cash farm income amount consistent
with the term "small farm" or "small family farm" as defined by
the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research
Service in a farm typology publication or related update."

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
year 2026-2027 for the conventional farming grant program.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DOA; Conventional Farming; Grants; Appropriations

Description:

Establishes the Conventional Farming Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Agriculture to provide grants to small and midsize farmers who practice conventional farming. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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

