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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO COLLABORATE WITH THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REGARDING GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WHEREAS, the Agribusiness Development Corporation's mission is to work with local farmers, ranchers, and aquaculture groups to acquire land and infrastructure to facilitate the development of a multi-crop agricultural industry in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture aims to sponsor and develop programs that promote the growth, sustainability, and protection of Hawaii's agriculture industry; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan identifies and outlines the goals and initiatives for achieving sustainability milestones through the 2020-2030 decade of action; and

WHEREAS, the increase of local food production for local consumption by 2030 is identified as a goal of the plan through the Aloha+ Challenge; and

WHEREAS, the increase of food production may require that more land be available for agricultural projects, and more labor be available to support the production and distribution of products; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture provides a multitude of grant program opportunities to improve the development and performance of agricultural organizations across the United States; and

WHEREAS, these United States Department of Agriculture grants have the opportunity to provide funding and aid to local farmers and ranchers to promote their continued growth and performance in the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, that the Department of Agriculture is urged to collaborate with the Agribusiness Development Corporation regarding grant funding opportunities with the United States Department of Agriculture to provide more support for local agricultural organizations or entities and encourage the development of a sustainable agricultural industry in the State; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.