

JAN 23 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the department
2 of agriculture and biosecurity, in collaboration with the
3 university of Hawaii's Leeward community college and the
4 department of human resources development, a five-year
5 agriculture and biosecurity workforce development pilot program
6 to equip interested students with the necessary entry-level
7 knowledge, skill set, expertise, and advancement potential in
8 the field of agriculture and biosecurity.

9 (b) The agriculture and biosecurity workforce development
10 pilot program shall:

11 (1) Develop a curriculum of a broad spectrum of topics
12 relevant to agriculture and biosecurity;

13 (2) Provide practical, hands-on training and work
14 opportunities that allow students to gain real-world
15 experience in the agriculture and biosecurity sector;
16 provided that the training and provision of work
17 opportunities shall not interfere with the existing



1 operations of the department of agriculture and
2 biosecurity; and

3 (3) Encourage additional training and credential
4 attainment by offering increased compensation to
5 participants who transition into biosecurity
6 employment.

7 (c) The department of agriculture and biosecurity, in
8 collaboration with the university of Hawaii's Leeward community
9 college and the department of human resources development, shall
10 submit a report of its findings and recommendations on the
11 agriculture and biosecurity workforce development pilot program,
12 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later
13 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
14 of 2031.

15 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval
16 and shall be repealed on June 30, 2031.

17
INTRODUCED BY: Mike Gabbard



S.B. NO. 2706

Report Title:

DAB; LCC; DHRD; Agriculture and Biosecurity Workforce
Development Pilot Program; Report

Description:

Establishes a five-year agriculture and biosecurity workforce development pilot program within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii's Leeward Community College and the Department of Human Resources Development. Requires a report to the Legislature. Sunsets 6/30/2031.

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

