
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH AN
AGRICULTURAL TOURISM WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE EXISTING LAWS
AND ORDINANCES RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL TOURISM AND PROVIDE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF AGRICULTURAL
TOURISM IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, agricultural tourism has become a critical
2 supplemental revenue source to support the economic viability of
3 farms and ranches; and
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5 WHEREAS, agricultural tourism activities can offer visitors
6 educational experiences that are connected to Hawaii's working
7 lands and promote the sale of local products; and
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9 WHEREAS, agricultural tourism activities can play an
10 important role in supporting the State's goal of adopting a
11 regenerative tourism model that emphasizes designing and
12 managing tourism to provide net benefits for local communities
13 and destinations; and
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15 WHEREAS, each county has its own agricultural tourism
16 activity permitting processes, standards, procedures, and
17 definitions, which has resulted in a disjointed regulatory
18 framework; and
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20 WHEREAS, although there is some statewide regulation of
21 agricultural tourism, the interpretation of these statutes
22 varies by county and often creates inconsistent and differing
23 standards of what constitutes agricultural tourism statewide;
24 and
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26 WHEREAS, because of ambiguity about what types of
27 activities constitute agricultural tourism, bad faith actors may
28 attempt to use agricultural lands primarily for purposes other



1 than bona fide agricultural activities under the guise of
2 agricultural tourism; and

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4 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of certain laws and
5 ordinances will enable the State to better support the economic
6 viability of Hawaii's farms and ranches while ensuring Hawaii's
7 agricultural lands remain primarily in productive agricultural
8 use; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Tourism
13 Authority is requested to convene an Agricultural Tourism
14 Working Group to examine existing laws and ordinances relating
15 to agricultural tourism and provide recommendations to encourage
16 the growth of agricultural tourism in Hawaii; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
19 to consist of the following members:

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21 (1) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the
22 Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the President and Chief
23 Executive Officer's designee, who shall serve as Chair
24 of the working group;
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26 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and
27 Biosecurity, or the Chairperson's designee;
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29 (3) A representative from each county, to be selected by
30 the respective Mayor of each county;
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32 (4) A representative from the Hawaii Farm Bureau; and
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34 (5) A representation from the Hawaii Farmers Union; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the working group
37 is requested to invite the following individuals to participate
38 in the working group:

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40 (1) A representative of the State's coffee industry;
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42 (2) A representative of the State's cacao industry;



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- (3) A representative of the State's macadamia nut industry;
- (4) A representative of the State's floriculture industry; and
- (5) Any other representatives the working group deems necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved on June 30, 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity; Mayors of the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and the City and County of Honolulu; President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau; and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Farmers Union.

OFFERED BY:


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