
HOUSE 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

4
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

8
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

14
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

19
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

25
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
29 than bona fide agricultural activities under the guise of
30 agricultural tourism; and



1
2 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of certain laws and
3 ordinances will enable the State to better support the economic
4 viability of Hawaii's farms and ranches while ensuring Hawaii's
5 agricultural lands remain primarily in productive agricultural
6 use; now, therefore,
7

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

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

- 19 (1) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the
20 Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the President and Chief
21 Executive Officer's designee, who shall serve as Chair
22 of the working group;
23
24 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and
25 Biosecurity, or the Chairperson's designee;
26
27 (3) A representative from each county, to be selected by
28 the respective Mayor of each county;
29
30 (4) A representative from the Hawaii Farm Bureau; and
31
32 (5) A representation from the Hawaii Farmers Union; and
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the working group
35 is requested to invite the following individuals to participate
36 in the working group:
37

- 38 (1) A representative of the State's coffee industry;
39
40 (2) A representative of the State's cacao industry;
41



- 1 (3) A representative of the State's macadamia nut
2 industry;
- 3
- 4 (4) A representative of the State's floriculture industry;
5 and
- 6
- 7 (5) Any other representatives the working group deems
8 necessary; and
- 9

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

15

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

18

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

26
27
28

OFFERED BY: 
MAR 16 2026