
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS.

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- Climate-resilient food systems grant program;
5 established; requirements; rules. (a) There is established a
6 climate-resilient food systems grant program to be administered
7 by the department to support climate adaptation, resiliency, and
8 food system infrastructure in the State.

9 (b) The department shall award grants to agricultural
10 producers, including farmers and ranchers, and food and
11 resilience hubs in the State. The grant program shall provide
12 assistance for applicants to cover the costs of:

13 (1) The acquisition of special-purpose equipment or
14 technology;

15 (2) Personnel expenses and wages;

16 (3) Training expenses; and



1 (4) Costs associated with planning, technical assistance,
2 or consulting services that support project
3 development, implementation, and evaluation.

4 (c) Grants shall be awarded on a competitive basis through
5 a request for applications.

6 (d) An applicant may apply for grants in a form pursuant
7 to rules adopted by the department; provided that an application
8 shall include:

9 (1) A detailed description of eligible climate adaptation
10 technologies or practices, such as precision
11 agriculture systems, renewable energy sources, and
12 water conservation equipment, for which grant moneys
13 will be expended;

14 (2) A plan for implementing specific strategies to expand
15 the production, processing, storage, and distribution
16 of agricultural products;

17 (3) A description of how the applicant intends to use the
18 grant for projects that support climate adaptation,
19 resiliency, food system infrastructure, and the
20 expansion of local agricultural production; and

21 (4) Any other information that the department may require.



1 (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to
2 chapter 91 to:

3 (1) Develop specific criteria to define "climate
4 adaptation, resiliency, and food system
5 infrastructure"; and

6 (2) Carry out the purposes of this section.

7 (f) For the purposes of this section:

8 "Department" means the department of agriculture and
9 biosecurity.

10 "Grant program" means the climate-resilient food systems
11 grant program."

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
15 the establishment of the climate-resilient food systems grant
16 program.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 agriculture and biosecurity for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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Report Title:

DAB; Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Program; Climate Adaptation; Agriculture; Rules; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Program within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity. Appropriates funds. Requires DAB to adopt rules. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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