

JAN 21 2026

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL GRANTS.

**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- Conventional farming grant program.** (a) There  
5        is established within the department of agriculture and  
6        biosecurity the conventional farming grant program.

7        (b) Subject to available funds, the conventional farming  
8        grant program shall provide grants to small and midsized farms  
9        that predominately practice conventional farming.

10        (c) Each grant application shall be evaluated by the board  
11        of agriculture and biosecurity and shall be approved if the  
12        application satisfies the following requirements:

13        (1) The applicant shall be an owner of a small farm or  
14        midsized farm;

15        (2) If the applicant is an entity other than an  
16        individual, the applicant shall:

17        (A) Be licensed to conduct business in the State; and





1       (7) The applicant shall comply with other requirements or  
2       conditions as the department of agriculture and  
3       biosecurity or board of agriculture and biosecurity  
4       may prescribe.

5       (d) For the purposes of this section:

6       "Conventional farming" means growing crops from seeds that  
7       have been genetically altered using any traditional breeding  
8       method, excluding biotechnology, and that are not certified as  
9       organic.

10       "Gross cash farm income" means the sum of the farm's crop  
11       and livestock sales, government payments, and other farm-related  
12       income, including fee payments from contractors.

13       "Midsize farm" means a farm having an annual gross cash  
14       farm income of \$350,000 to \$999,999; provided that, upon  
15       approval by the board of agriculture and biosecurity, the  
16       department of agriculture and biosecurity may apply a higher  
17       annual gross cash farm income amount consistent with the term  
18       "midsize farm" or "midsize family farm" as defined by the United  
19       States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service in  
20       a farm typology publication or related update.



1       "Small farm" means a farm having an annual gross cash farm  
2       income of less than \$350,000; provided that, upon approval by  
3       the board of agriculture and biosecurity, the department of  
4       agriculture and biosecurity may apply a higher annual gross cash  
5       farm income amount consistent with the term "small farm" or  
6       "small family farm" as defined by the United States Department  
7       of Agriculture's Economic Research Service in a farm typology  
8       publication or related update."

9           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
10          revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                   or so  
11          much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
12          the conventional farming grant program.

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

15           SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

16           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lyn DeLoite

# S.B. NO. 2126

**Report Title:**

DAB; Conventional Farming; Grants; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Conventional Farming Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to provide grants to small and midsized farmers who practice conventional farming. Appropriates funds.

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

