

A Bill for an Act Relating to Ecology, Environment and Recreation.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Purpose. Given proper resources, opportunities, and motivation, older persons can make a valuable contribution to society. Because of our strong plantation influence, many of our citizens today have a deep interest in agricultural or farming activities. Today however, because of our crisis in housing and available lands, many of the elderly and younger people are housed in high rise buildings or planned unit developments with little or no open space and very seldom any consideration for gardening. Yet when gardens are provided for their use and upkeep, their entire mode of living is improved. They are pleasantly and productively engrossed in a recreational activity that can also provide them with food for consumption. Vacant public lands can be made productive by our citizens in areas like Liliha, Kalihi, Kaimuki, other central urban areas, Haleiwa, Kahuku, leeward Oahu, and places with concentrations of senior citizens. Some of these areas have already been pinpointed as having lands available. Therefore, it is the purpose of this Act to make public lands available for our citizens which could be used for gardening activities.

SECTION 2. Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“Sec. 171- Agricultural plots. The department of land and natural resources, in cooperation with the department of agriculture and the city and county of Honolulu, shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91 to allow for use of vacant public lands for farming or agricultural recreation.”

SECTION 3. The following sum is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose stated:

- (1) For the purchase of minor equipment and supplies for farm and agricultural use \$50,000

SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored. In printing this Act, the revisor of statutes need not include the underscoring.*

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1974.

(Approved June 15, 1974.)

*Edited accordingly.