

ACT 25

S.B. NO. 1158

A Bill for an Act Relating to Agriculture.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that with the decline of historic large scale sugar production, there is a need to promulgate government commitment, direction, and policy for agriculture to continue to be a dynamic, essential component of Hawaii's strategic, economic, and social well-being.

SECTION 2. Section 226-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§226-7 Objectives and policies for the economy—agriculture. (a) Planning for the State's economy with regard to agriculture shall be directed towards achievement of the following objectives:

- (1) [Continued viability in] Viability of Hawaii's sugar and pineapple industries.
- (2) [Continued growth] Growth and development of diversified agriculture throughout the State.
- (3) An agriculture industry that continues to constitute a dynamic and essential component of Hawaii's strategic, economic, and social well-being.

(b) To achieve the agriculture objectives, it shall be the policy of this State to:

- (1) Establish a clear direction for Hawaii's agriculture through stakeholder commitment and advocacy.
- (2) Encourage agriculture by making best use of natural resources.
- (3) Provide the governor and the legislature with information and options needed for prudent decision making for the development of agriculture.
- (4) Establish strong relationships between the agricultural and visitor industries for mutual marketing benefits.
- [(1)] (5) Foster increased public awareness and understanding of the contributions and benefits of agriculture as a major sector of Hawaii's economy.
- [(2)] (6) Seek the enactment and retention of federal and state legislation that benefits Hawaii's agricultural industries.
- [(3)] (7) Strengthen diversified agriculture by developing an effective promotion, marketing, and distribution system between Hawaii's producers and consumer markets locally, on the continental United States, and internationally.
- [(4)] (8) Support research and development activities that provide greater efficiency and economic productivity in agriculture.
- [(5)] (9) Enhance agricultural growth by providing public incentives and encouraging private initiatives.
- [(6)] (10) Assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands with adequate water to accommodate present and future needs.

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- [(7)] (11) Increase the attractiveness and opportunities for an agricultural education and livelihood.
- [(8)] (12) Expand Hawaii's agricultural base by promoting growth and development of flowers, tropical fruits and plants, livestock, feed grains, forestry, food crops, aquaculture, and other potential enterprises.
- [(9)] (13) Promote economically competitive activities that increase Hawaii's agricultural self-sufficiency.
- [(10)] (14) Promote and assist in the establishment of sound financial programs for diversified agriculture.
- [(11)] (15) Institute and support programs and activities to assist the entry of displaced agricultural workers into alternative agricultural or other employment.
- [(12)] (16) Facilitate the transition of agricultural lands in economically nonfeasible agricultural production to economically viable agricultural uses."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 15, 1993.)