

ACT 207

H.B. NO. 2801

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 the swine industry is a significant contributor to diversified agriculture in Hawaii, generating \$6,000,000 in farm gate value alone. Swine production is also an integral part of Hawaii's culture and economy, and is essential for the continued functioning of activities ranging from family luaus to Chinatown markets.

However, the legislature finds that Hawaii's swine industry is threatened by porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome (PRRS), which can have a devastating impact on swine, particularly in herds that are free of the disease and have not built up resistance to this disease. PRRS has been shown in Hawaii to cause losses of approximately six months production and income, and increase ongoing production costs after the disease is under control. Moreover, this disease has made it impossible for some farmers to continue in business.

The purpose of this Act is to coordinate a mandatory survey and sampling of swine farms in the State to determine the incidence of PRRS.

SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture, animal industry division, shall conduct a mandatory survey and sampling of swine farms in the State to

determine the incidence of PRRS. The survey results shall be confidential except that final reports or report summaries shall be available to the general public upon request. Raw data that would allow any owner or business to be identified shall be considered confidential, unless to do so would otherwise violate chapter 92F, Hawaii Revised Statutes; provided that the results shall be available to the producer on whose farm the survey is conducted and to the cooperative extension service for statistical analysis.

(b) The department of agriculture shall establish procedures to certify that swine herds are negative for PRRS and maintain a list of these herds.

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2000.

(Approved June 14, 2000.)