

ACT 196

H.B. NO. 2832

A Bill for an Act Relating to Taro Security.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature established the taro security and purity task force (task force) in 2008 to seek solutions to challenges facing taro, taro farmers, and taro markets. The task force published the report "The Taro Lives; Abundance Returns to the Land" in 2009, which represents the first time that guidance for taro, taro research, and the problems facing taro farmers comes from the farmers and from the taro itself.

The legislature finds that the task force developed recommendations that need implementation. The task force members are dedicated to continuing their work to implement the recommended policies and programs.

SECTION 2. Chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§10- Taro security; funding. (a) The office may seek available federal, state, county, or private funding to restore taro and lo'i cultivation. The office shall cooperate with other public and private agencies, as appropriate, in applying for funds pursuant to this section.

(b) The office may use and distribute funds received pursuant to subsection (a) for projects that use taro for:

- (1) Flood control;
- (2) Wetland restoration and preservation;
- (3) Food security;
- (4) Community economic development;
- (5) Job creation;
- (6) Education; and
- (7) Water-quality protection.”

SECTION 3. Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, section 2, is amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) The task force shall submit a preliminary report to the legislature documenting the status of its progress no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2009. The task force shall submit a final report to the legislature summarizing its program, the results achieved, actual expenditures, and recommended legislation no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2010.

The task force shall implement the recommendations in the final report submitted prior to the regular session of 2010, and shall submit a preliminary report to the legislature documenting the status of implementation no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014. The task force shall submit a final report to the legislature summarizing its implementation accomplishments no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2015.”

SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Became law on July 6, 2010, without the governor’s signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Constitution.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.