

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 supporting local businesses and encouraging the production and use of local agricultural products is a matter of statewide concern. The purpose of this Act is to require state departments to ensure that a certain percentage of produce that is purchased is locally-grown to ensure the continued growth of local produce, support local farmers and ranchers, and guarantee that revenue derived from the produce of contracts for locally-grown produce remains in the State.

SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§27- Contracts for produce; percentage to be grown within the State.

(a) Each principal department of the State, as established in section 26-4, that purchases produce shall ensure that a certain percentage of the produce purchased by that department is fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products as follows:

- (1) By January 1, 2025, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of ten per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
- (2) By January 1, 2030, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of eighteen per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
- (3) By January 1, 2035, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of twenty-six per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
- (4) By January 1, 2040, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of thirty-four per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost;
- (5) By January 1, 2045, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of forty-two per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost; and
- (6) By January 1, 2050, fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products shall constitute a minimum of fifty per cent of the total produce purchased by the department during each calendar year, as measured by the per cent of total food cost.

(b) Each principal department of the State shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session on that department's progress toward meeting the benchmarks described in subsection (a), including:

- (1) The amount of total produce purchased by the department during the calendar year preceding that regular session, as measured by the per cent of the total food cost;
 - (2) The amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products purchased by the department during the calendar year preceding that regular session, as measured by the per cent of the total food cost;
 - (3) The percentage of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products purchased by the department during the year preceding that regular session; and
 - (4) If the department did not meet the relevant benchmark described in subsection (a), an explanation of why the department did not meet that benchmark.
- (c) For the purposes of this section:

“Fresh local agricultural products” means fruits, vegetables, nuts, coffee, eggs, poultry, and poultry products, livestock, and livestock products, milk and milk products, aquacultural, and maricultural products, and horticultural products, one hundred per cent grown, raised, and harvested in Hawaii.

“Local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products” means at least fifty-one per cent of the product’s primary agricultural product is grown, raised, and harvested in Hawaii.

“Primary agricultural product” means the major agricultural product in a processed or value-added agricultural or food product.

“Produce” means fruits, vegetables, staple starches, nuts, coffee, eggs, poultry and poultry products, livestock and livestock products, milk and milk products, aquacultural and maricultural products, and horticultural products.”

SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.¹

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

(Approved July 2, 2021.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.