
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LEASES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§171- Pre-qualification; agricultural lease advisory
5 panel; forfeiture of agricultural leases due to non-compliance.

6 (a) The department shall establish an advisory panel known as
7 the agricultural lease advisory panel. The agricultural lease
8 advisory panel shall help ensure that only bona-fide farmers
9 with viable agricultural plans are pre-qualified for
10 agricultural leases managed by the department by:

11 (1) Interviewing each applicant seeking to pre-qualify for
12 an agricultural lease;

13 (2) Reviewing the agricultural plan submitted by each
14 applicant; and

15 (3) Submitting a publicly available recommendation on each
16 applicant to the department.

17 (b) The agricultural lease advisory panel shall consist

18 of:



- 1 (1) The chairperson of the board or the chairperson's
2 designated representative;
- 3 (2) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the
4 chairperson's designated representative;
- 5 (3) The dean of the University of Hawaii college of
6 tropical agriculture and human resources or the dean's
7 designated representative; and
- 8 (4) Two members of the public, selected by the chairperson
9 of the board of agriculture or the chairperson's
10 designated representative, who are farmers located in
11 the area surrounding the area of the agricultural
12 lease, as determined by the department of land and
13 natural resources, and who have volunteered to serve
14 on the advisory panel.

15 The chairperson of the board, or the chairperson's designated
16 representative, shall preside over meetings. Members shall
17 serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
18 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the
19 performance of their duties.

20 (c) In the event that an applicant who has been awarded an
21 agricultural lease fails to substantially comply with the
22 conditions and terms of the agricultural plan that the applicant



1 had previously submitted under subsection (a)(2), the board
2 shall terminate the lease and take possession of the leased
3 land, pursuant to section 171-39."

4 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

INTRODUCED BY: Tommy Watson

By Request

JAN 20 2006



HB 1961

Report Title:

Agricultural Leases; Advisory Panel

Description:

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to establish an advisory panel to review applicants seeking to pre-qualify for DLNR agricultural leases. Establishes forfeiture penalties for non-compliance.

