
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTIES TO AMEND THEIR SUBDIVISION ORDINANCES TO
FACILITATE THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND FOR AGRICULTURAL
PURPOSES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii imports approximately 90 percent of its
2 food; and

3
4 WHEREAS, it is critical that Hawaii raise its level of
5 self-sufficiency in food; and

6
7 WHEREAS, plantation agriculture in crops such as sugarcane
8 and pineapple formerly served as one of the traditional pillars
9 of Hawaii's economy; and

10
11 WHEREAS, diversified agriculture--with products ranging
12 from vegetables to fruits to coffee--has been widely-recognized
13 as a viable and increasingly significant component of the
14 state's economy today; and

15
16 WHEREAS, farmers throughout the state often face difficulty
17 in obtaining land for their agricultural operations; and

18
19 WHEREAS, farmers also encounter problems in financing their
20 agricultural operations because of the reluctance of lending
21 institutions to collateralize a loan against a lease on a parcel
22 of land that has not been legally subdivided; and

23
24 WHEREAS, landowners should instead be encouraged to grant
25 long-term leases to farmers to use for agricultural production;
26 and

27
28 WHEREAS, the counties have costly and time-consuming
29 subdivision processes, including infrastructure requirements,



H.C.R. NO. 179

1 that discourage landowners from legally subdividing a parcel of
2 land that can be leased for agricultural purposes; and
3

4 WHEREAS, increased agricultural activity benefits not only
5 farmers and businesses but also the people of the state as a
6 whole; now, therefore,
7

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
10 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that each county is requested to
11 amend its subdivision ordinance to permit waivers of compliance
12 with the subdivision ordinance when long-term leases are entered
13 into for agricultural production purposes in order to facilitate
14 the use of land for agricultural purposes; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to
17 expedite the amendment of their subdivision ordinances; and
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;
21 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; and Mayor and City
22 Council of the City and County of Honolulu, County of Hawaii,
23 County of Maui, and County of Kauai.
24
25
26

OFFERED BY: Polje P. Abinaya, Jr.

Calvin K. Iy
MAR 15 2006

