
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the papaya is the
2 second most important fruit crop in Hawaii. In 1992,
3 ninety-five per cent of Hawaii's papaya crop was damaged from
4 the papaya ringspot virus, plunging the industry into a crisis.
5 As a result of these events, a genetically engineered papaya
6 called the "rainbow" papaya was developed to resist the
7 aggressive ringspot virus.

8 Today, the rainbow papaya is an important part of Hawaii's
9 papaya industry and comprises the majority of the papayas
10 exported to the mainland and Canada. With the advent of the
11 rainbow papaya, the industry is seeking to begin exporting the
12 engineered papayas to Japan. Japan accounts for approximately
13 forty per cent of Hawaii's exports; however, without proper
14 clearances, the rainbow papaya cannot be exported to Japan. The
15 process of introducing the genetically engineered papaya into
16 Japan has been ongoing for over five years, and has been delayed
17 by questions from the Japanese regulators, many of which relate
18 to scientific concerns. The appropriations contained in this



1 Act will support genomic sequencing of the engineered papaya,
2 which will provide the scientific basis to accelerate Japanese
3 approval to market the rainbow papaya both in Japan and in
4 future markets. The legislature believes that by providing
5 information to clear rainbow papayas for export to Japan, the
6 papaya industry will also open doors in other countries,
7 including China and the European Union.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to:

9 (1) Provide the scientific information to support the
10 deregulation process which will allow the genetically
11 engineered Hawaiian rainbow papaya to be introduced
12 into the Japanese market; and

13 (2) Initiate the development and implementation of a
14 marketing plan to promote transgenic and non-
15 transgenic Hawaiian papaya in Japan and in future
16 markets, including China and the European Union.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 to:

20 (1) Provide the scientific information to support the
21 deregulation process which will allow the genetically



1 engineered Hawaiian rainbow papaya to be introduced
2 into the Japanese market; and

3 (2) Initiate the development and implementation of a
4 marketing plan to promote transgenic and non-
5 transgenic Hawaiian papaya in Japan and in future
6 markets, including China and the European Union.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

Report Title:

Rainbow Papaya; Export; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to (1) Provide the scientific information to support the deregulation process which will allow the genetically engineered Hawaiian rainbow papaya to be introduced into the Japanese market; and (2) Initiate the development and implementation of a marketing plan to promote transgenic and non-transgenic Hawaiian papaya in Japan and in future markets, including China and the European Union. (CD1)

