
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The cost of feed for livestock production in
2 Hawaii can comprise up to seventy per cent of total production
3 costs versus close to fifty per cent for mainland producers.
4 There are currently five dairies and six egg farms of
5 significant size, with combined gross annual revenues of
6 \$26,400,000. Within the past year, two egg farms and one dairy
7 farm have gone out of business due to production cost increases,
8 largely attributed to the rising cost of feed for livestock
9 animals. Currently, another dairy farm and another egg farm are
10 threatened by closure. Such closures increase the State's
11 dependence on imported foods and threaten the State's food
12 security and ability to achieve levels of agricultural self-
13 sufficiency. Self-sufficiency is critical to the State's
14 ability to respond effectively in the event of natural disasters
15 or disruptions in transportation.

16 Closure of local dairies and poultry farms also means that
17 children and adults throughout the state will no longer have the
18 option of selecting fresh, locally produced milk, fresh



1 chickens, and eggs. The public throughout the state has often
2 expressed interest in obtaining locally produced milk, but
3 unfortunately, the dairies do not produce enough to meet the
4 public demand. The public has expressed similar interest for
5 island fresh beef, pork, chicken, and eggs.

6 Locally produced fresh beef, milk, pork, chickens, and eggs
7 provide essential nutritional needs to consumers. Because these
8 food products are perishable, imported products create an
9 increased risk of food spoilage and resultant food-borne
10 illnesses due to the increase in time to transport these
11 products from the overseas farms to Hawaii consumers.

12 Without these local industries, all beef, milk, pork,
13 chicken, and eggs would have to be imported into the state,
14 incurring up to ten days of shipping before being offered to the
15 consumers. Increased shipping time especially decreases the
16 expected shelf life of fresh milk and eggs.

17 The purpose of this Act is to create a livestock
18 revitalization and food security program to administer and
19 disburse funds to qualified cattle, dairy, hog, and poultry
20 farms that apply for and receive, if properly documented, a
21 reimbursement for up to sixty per cent of each farm's feed
22 expenses. With financial support, the livestock industry will



1 be able to make investments in modern equipment, expand and
2 improve their herds and flocks, and develop new markets and
3 products. This financial support will serve a public purpose by
4 enabling the livestock industries to stabilize their operations,
5 thus, contributing to food security, and make them more
6 competitive with mainland suppliers in the future.

7 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
8 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
9 as follows:

10 **"CHAPTER**

11 **LIVESTOCK REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

12 **§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

13 "Administrative costs" means costs associated with
14 reviewing, approving, and recording expenditures and completing
15 any reporting requirements associated with the grant program.

16 "Department" means the department of agriculture.

17 "Milk" means the lacteal secretion, practically free from
18 colostrums, obtained by the milking of healthy cows normally
19 produced or marketed through the channels of the fluid milk
20 trade.



1 "Poultry products" means chicken eggs, uncooked in shell,
2 egg-laying chicks, meat bird chicks, pullets, broilers, fryers,
3 and laying chicken hens.

4 "Qualified producer" means any person that at the time of
5 application for and disbursement of funds under this chapter is
6 in the business of producing:

7 (1) Milk from a herd, located in Hawaii, of not less than
8 three hundred fifty cows;

9 (2) Poultry products from a flock, raised and located in
10 Hawaii, of not less than three thousand birds;

11 (3) Pork from a herd, raised and located in Hawaii, of not
12 less than fifty sows; or

13 (4) Beef, that is grown, slaughtered, processed, and
14 marketed in Hawaii. Producers who finish at least one
15 hundred head of beef cattle annually shall be eligible
16 for this program.

17 **§ -2 Grants.** (a) Applications for grants by qualified
18 producers shall be submitted a form furnished by the department
19 and shall be filed with accompanying documentation of animal
20 feed costs; provided that:

21 (1) The applicant shall comply with applicable federal and
22 state laws prohibiting discrimination against any



1 person on the basis of race, color, national origin,
2 religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or
3 disability;

4 (2) The applicant shall have applied for or received all
5 applicable licenses or permits;

6 (3) The applicant shall indemnify and hold harmless the
7 State and its officers, agents, and employees from all
8 claims arising out of or resulting from the feed
9 purchased;

10 (4) The subsidy shall not be allowed within a fiscal
11 quarter if the flock or herd size falls five per cent
12 or more below the required minimum of:

13 (A) Three thousand birds;

14 (B) Three hundred fifty cows;

15 (C) Fifty sows in any two months of the applicable
16 fiscal quarter; or

17 (D) One hundred finished beef cattle annually;

18 (5) The grant shall not exceed a total of \$250,000 per
19 qualified producer per year; and

20 (6) The department may request an applicant to provide
21 necessary information for the purposes of verifying
22 flock or herd size and feed purchases.



1 (b) Documentation of animal feed costs, as requested by
2 the department, shall be filed for feed purchased within the
3 immediate preceding fiscal quarter of filing and shall be
4 effective for feed costs incurred after July 1, 2007.

5 (c) The applicant shall submit a quarterly financial
6 statement of farm revenues and expenses along with other
7 supporting documents as deemed necessary by the department, and
8 filed with the documentation of the feed costs. An annual
9 financial statement shall be filed with the department within
10 ninety days following the close of the business's fiscal year
11 after the effective date of this Act for final reconciliation of
12 any reimbursement paid during the previous three quarters within
13 the fiscal year. The financial statements shall be certified as
14 accurate by the applicant and the preparer of the financial
15 statement on forms prepared by the department.

16 (d) Funds shall be disbursed upon approval by the
17 department to the qualifying producer for up to:

18 (1) Sixty per cent of the feed costs incurred for
19 production of poultry products;

20 (2) Forty per cent of the feed costs incurred for milk
21 production;



1 (3) Fifty per cent of the feed costs incurred for pigs
2 raised in Hawaii and slaughtered for local
3 consumption; or

4 (4) Fifty per cent of the feed costs for beef cattle
5 raised in Hawaii and slaughtered in Hawaii for local
6 consumption.

7 (e) Feed costs shall be limited to only the feed fed to
8 the qualifying flock or herd and shall not include the feed
9 purchases for resale or gift, or the cost of transportation to
10 Hawaii. In no case shall costs be reimbursed to a qualified
11 producer when, after evaluation and verification by the
12 department, the department determines that the amount of
13 reimbursement will result in an annual profit of more than:

- 14 (1) Twelve per cent for milk producers;
- 15 (2) Eight per cent for poultry producers;
- 16 (3) Eight per cent for pork producers; or
- 17 (4) Eight per cent for beef producers.

18 **§ -3 Exemption from chapter 42F.** Chapter 42F shall not
19 apply to the grants made pursuant to this chapter, but all
20 reimbursements shall be made only in accordance with the
21 standards and conditions specified in section -2."



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2008-2009 for the agricultural development division of the
6 department of agriculture to disburse to qualified producers of
7 milk, pork, eggs, poultry, and beef, for the cost of feed for
8 beef cattle, dairy cows, hogs, or poultry and to provide for the
9 administrative costs of the livestock revitalization program.
10 The appropriations made for the purposes authorized under this
11 section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which
12 the appropriations are made; provided that any balance of any
13 appropriation that is not encumbered as of December 31, 2010,
14 shall lapse as of that date.

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

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
18 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
19 2007.



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H.D. 2
S.D. 2
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Report Title:

Livestock Revitalization Program; Livestock Feed; Agriculture

Description:

Creates a livestock revitalization and food security program.
(HB1221 CD1)

