
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The agribusiness development corporation is the
2 State's primary agency with respect to assisting and supporting
3 our agricultural businesses. Section 163D-1, Hawaii Revised
4 Statutes, describes the purpose of the corporation as conceived
5 by the legislature. It reads, in part:

6 *"Constantly evolving economies require an aggressive and*
7 *dynamic leadership for the promotion and development of*
8 *agricultural enterprises, and centralized leadership to*
9 *coordinate industry development, provide industry-wide services,*
10 *provide marketing assistance, and facilitate investments and*
11 *coventures in viable enterprises.*

12 *The purpose of this chapter is to create a vehicle and*
13 *process to make optimal use of agricultural assets for the*
14 *economic, environmental, and social benefit of the people of*
15 *Hawaii. This chapter establishes a public corporation to*
16 *administer an aggressive and dynamic agribusiness development*
17 *program. The corporation shall coordinate and administer*
18 *programs to assist agricultural enterprises to facilitate the*



1 *transition of agricultural infrastructure from plantation*
2 *operations into other agricultural enterprises, to carry on the*
3 *marketing analysis to direct agricultural industry evolution,*
4 *and to provide the leadership for the development, financing,*
5 *improvement, or enhancement of agricultural enterprises."*

6 The legislature finds that the board of the agribusiness
7 development corporation may be improved by requiring the
8 inclusion of members with expertise in areas such as wholesale,
9 retail, and distribution; packaging and processing;
10 transportation and shipping; and venture capital. These
11 industries have an important role to play in ensuring the future
12 survivability of Hawaii's agricultural industry.

13 The purpose of this Act is to improve the effectiveness and
14 leadership of the agribusiness development corporation by
15 requiring that at least four members of the board of the
16 agribusiness development corporation have knowledge, experience,
17 and expertise within the fields of retail, wholesale, and
18 distribution involving agricultural products; packaging and
19 processing of agricultural products; transportation and shipping
20 of agricultural products; or venture capital involving
21 agricultural businesses.



1 SECTION 2. Section 163D-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) The board of directors of the corporation shall
4 consist of eleven voting members, of whom eight shall be
5 appointed by the governor. The terms of these eight members
6 shall be four years; provided that, commencing on July 1, 2005,
7 the governor shall reduce the terms of those initially appointed
8 so as to provide, as nearly as can be, for the expiration of an
9 equal number of terms at intervals of one year. The eight
10 members shall be selected on the basis of their knowledge,
11 experience, and proven expertise in small and large businesses
12 within the agricultural industry, agricultural economics,
13 banking, real estate, finance, promotion, marketing, and
14 management [-]; provided that at least four of the eight members
15 shall also have knowledge, experience, and expertise within the
16 fields of retail, wholesale, and distribution involving
17 agricultural products; packaging and processing of agricultural
18 products; transportation and shipping of agricultural products;
19 or venture capital involving agricultural businesses. Of these
20 eight members, one shall be from the city and county of
21 Honolulu, one shall be from the county of Hawaii, one shall be
22 from the county of Maui, one shall be from the county of Kauai,



1 and four shall be appointed at-large. The director of business,
2 economic development, and tourism; the chairperson of the board
3 of agriculture; and the chairperson of the board of land and
4 natural resources, or their designated representatives, shall be
5 ex-officio, voting members of the board. All members shall
6 continue in office until their respective successors have been
7 appointed and qualified. The board shall annually elect its
8 chairperson from among its members; provided that the
9 chairperson shall not be an ex-officio member."

10 SECTION 3. All acts passed prior to or during this regular
11 session of 2008, whether enacted before or after passage of this
12 Act, shall be interpreted to conform to this Act, unless the
13 acts specifically provide that this Act is being amended.
14 Insofar as this Act is inconsistent with any other law, this Act
15 shall control.

16 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
19 provided that the amendment to section 163D-3(b), Hawaii Revised
20 Statutes, requiring at least four members of the board of
21 directors of the agribusiness development corporation have
22 certain specified knowledge, experience, and expertise, shall be



- 1 effective upon the next appointment and subsequent appointments
- 2 until the composition of the board complies with this Act.



Report Title:

Agribusiness Development Corporation; Board of Directors

Description:

Requires at least four of the eight members of the Board of the Agribusiness Development Corporation to have knowledge, experience, and expertise within certain secondary industries related to agriculture. (HB2085 HD1)

