
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 college of
2 tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of
3 Hawaii has established a number of educational training
4 initiatives, including agriculture training programs for
5 students and residents to prepare them to work or study in the
6 agriculture areas. Existing programs provide a variety of
7 learning opportunities that includes internships, work-based
8 learning, laboratory training, site visits, and lectures in
9 agriculture related careers. Currently, there is no program
10 that focuses on taro or that provides education and training
11 experience in taro farming and issues related to commercial taro
12 farming.

13 The purpose of this Act is to direct the college of
14 tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of
15 Hawaii to establish and implement a commercial taro farming
16 education and training program to provide education and training
17 opportunities, including work-based learning or apprenticeships,



1 for individuals who wish to become successful commercial taro
2 farmers.

3 SECTION 2. The college of tropical agriculture and human
4 resources of the University of Hawaii, in consultation with
5 native Hawaiian organizations and taro farmers, is directed to
6 establish a commercial taro farming education and training
7 program by developing a curriculum that includes education and
8 training opportunities on issues necessary for successful
9 commercial taro farming. The program shall be available to
10 students and residents and shall include education and training
11 opportunities relating to commercial taro farming issues such as
12 taro varieties, propagation and farming methods, production and
13 cultivation management practices, harvest and post harvest
14 practices, pest and disease control, processing and
15 technologies, economic and financial issues, marketing, and
16 work-based learning experiences or apprenticeships. In
17 establishing the commercial taro farming program, the college of
18 tropical agriculture and human resources is directed to consult
19 with commercial taro farmers statewide on curriculum and program
20 design issues, particularly relating to work-based learning
21 experiences or apprenticeships.



1 The college of tropical agriculture and human resources of
 2 the University of Hawaii shall develop an informational brochure
 3 describing the commercial taro farming program that shall be
 4 distributed by United States postal services and other methods,
 5 such as be related organizations, at conferences or meetings, to
 6 interested individuals and organizations. Information on the
 7 program, including the informational brochure, shall also be
 8 available on the website of the college of tropical agriculture
 9 and human resources.

10 The commercial taro farming program shall be operational no
 11 later than January 1, 2010.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
 15 establishment and implementation of a commercial taro farming
 16 education and training program.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the college of
 18 tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of
 19 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY: Karen Awana Ken Ho
Paul Oye Cindy Evans

Manuel Edree
Muhoney, Nancy



H.B. NO. 2451

Tom Ben

Ray P. ...

Caroline M. ...

SP7.02

James

Shawn & De

John H.

Young Vot

Ray

Art

Calvin May

J. Phil. ...

Wendy ...

~~Amgen~~

De ...

Rida F.R. ...

Hal ...

Debra ...

Beck

John M. ...

John ...

[Signature]

Jyle B. ...

John Wood

Kirk Caldwell

Mele ...

[Signature]

Guthrie ...



Report Title:

Taro Farming Education and Training Program

Description:

Directs the college of tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of Hawaii in consultation with native Hawaiian organizations and taro farmers, to establish a taro farming education and training program. Appropriates funds.

