
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING A MULTIPURPOSE, MULTI-USER PROCESSING FACILITY ON THE LAND IN THE EWA, CENTRAL OAHU AREA BEING OFFERED TO THE HAWAII AGRICULTURE RESEARCH CENTER, FOR THE PRODUCTION OF VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS THAT MAKE USE OF LOCALLY-GROWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

1 WHEREAS, sections 3 and 10 of article XI of the Hawaii
2 Constitution mandate the support and promotion of diversified
3 agricultural activities and agricultural self-sufficiency for
4 the state; and

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6 WHEREAS, Act 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, in
7 establishing a process for important agricultural lands,
8 declared that the policy of the State is to:

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10 (1) Conserve and protect agricultural lands;
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12 (2) Promote diversified agriculture;
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14 (3) Increase agricultural self-sufficiency; and
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16 (4) Assure the availability of agriculturally suitable
17 lands;

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19 and

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21 WHEREAS, numerous concurrent efforts are proposing other
22 ways, means, and incentives to promote agriculture in the state;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, there may be more opportunities for our local
26 agricultural products to compete in the local, national, and
27 international markets if our agricultural products are properly
28 processed, packaged, and assembled locally, however, the state
29 currently does not have a facility to serve such purposes; and
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1 WHEREAS, there is an area of approximately 8,000 contiguous
2 acres of valuable Hawaii farmland in the Ewa, central Oahu area
3 that is being purchased by companies and that will provide for a
4 diverse mix of farming operations, both large and small; and
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6 WHEREAS, a landowner, Campbell Estate, has indicated a
7 willingness to donate to the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center,
8 approximately 119 acres of this land together with improvements,
9 including agricultural worker housing and existing facilities
10 for agricultural offices and agribusinesses; and
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12 WHEREAS, this situation presents an invaluable opportunity
13 to build a multipurpose, multi-user processing facility in the
14 state for the complete production of value-added products; now,
15 therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
19 Session of 2008, that the University of Hawaii College of
20 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH-CTAHR) is requested
21 to study the feasibility of constructing a multipurpose, multi-
22 user processing facility on the land in the Ewa, central Oahu
23 area being offered to the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center,
24 for the production of value-added products that make use of
25 locally-grown agricultural products; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UH-CTAHR is requested to
28 consider the following in its study:
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- 30 (1) The feasibility of using a large, multipurpose
31 processing facility that serves multiple users and
32 produces different value-added agricultural products;
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- 34 (2) The type of owner-operator that would be appropriate
35 for the facility, whether public, private, or a
36 combination thereof;
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- 38 (3) The types of packaged or finished value-added products
39 that may be processed by the facility;
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- 41 (4) The local, national, and international markets that
42 may be targeted for products of the processing
43 facility;
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1 (5) The latest emerging technologies that may be used in
2 processing and marketing Hawaii agricultural products;
3 and
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5 (6) Any information that may be provided by the National
6 Conference of State Legislatures as to whether other
7 states have experienced a similar phenomenon of the
8 demise of large, plantation-style agricultural
9 industries over a relatively short period of time,
10 leaving much of the plantation lands fallow and the
11 supporting infrastructure unused and decaying;
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13 and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UH-CTAHR is requested to
16 consult with the Department of Agriculture, Department of
17 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Department of Land
18 and Natural Resources, Agribusiness Development Corporation,
19 Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Hawaii Agriculture Research
20 Center, Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association, National
21 Conference of State Legislatures, and other stakeholders in the
22 agriculture industry; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UH-CTAHR is requested to report
25 its findings and recommendations, including proposed
26 legislation, to the Legislature no later than 45 days prior to
27 the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic
31 Development, and Tourism, Director of Land and Natural
32 Resources, Executive Director of the Agribusiness Development
33 Corporation, Dean of the University of Hawaii College of
34 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and the Chairperson of
35 the Board of Agriculture who, in turn, is requested to transmit
36 copies to the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Hawaii Agriculture
37 Research Center, Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association, National
38 Conference of State Legislatures, and other appropriate
39 stakeholders in the agriculture industry.
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