
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HONEY.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 486, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§486- Imported non-Hawaii produced honey; labeling

5 requirements. (a) In addition to all other labeling

6 requirements, the identity statement used for labeling or

7 advertising honey products produced in whole or in part from

8 non-Hawaii produced imported honey shall meet the following

9 requirements:

10 (1) For a product that contains one hundred per cent of
11 honey by weight, the identity statement shall consist
12 of the per cent of Hawaii-produced honey used, by
13 weight, in packaging that contains a blend of one or
14 more Hawaii-produced honeys and imported honeys,
15 followed by the term "honey blend";

16 (2) For a product that contains less than one hundred per
17 cent of honey by weight, the identity statement shall



1 consist of the per cent of honey by weight followed by
2 the per cent of Hawaii-produced honey used, by weight,
3 if any, and the per cent by weight of other sweeteners
4 added to the honey;

5 (3) For a product that contains honey subjected to any
6 ultrafiltration and reconstitution processes, which
7 removes any natural constituents of honey, whether
8 packaged alone or blended with natural honey or other
9 sweeteners, the identity statement shall consist of
10 the per cent of natural honey by weight followed by
11 the per cent of Hawaii-produced honey used, by weight,
12 if any, and the per cent by weight of the
13 ultrafiltered sweetener and the term "ultrafiltered
14 sweetener"; and

15 (4) Each word or character in the identity statement shall
16 be of the same type size and shall be contiguous. The
17 smallest letter or character of the identity statement
18 on packages of sixteen ounces or less net weight shall
19 be at least one and one-half times the type size
20 required under federal law for the statement of net
21 weight or three-sixteenths of an inch in height,
22 whichever is smaller. The smallest letter or



1 character of the identity statement on packages of
2 greater than twelve ounces net weight shall be at
3 least one and one-half times the type size required
4 under federal law for the statement of net weight.
5 The identity statement shall be conspicuously
6 displayed without any intervening material in a
7 position on the principal display panel above the
8 statement of net weight. Upper and lower case letters
9 may be used interchangeably in the identity statement.

10 (b) The department shall work with interested parties to
11 develop labeling requirements and procedures regarding the
12 disclosure of the country of origin of honey sold in the State.

13 (c) It shall be a violation of this section to:

14 (1) Use the identity statement specified in section (a) (1)
15 or similar terms in labeling or advertising unless the
16 package of honey contains one hundred per cent honey
17 from one country of origin;

18 (2) Use a country of origin in labeling or advertising,
19 including in conjunction with a honey style or in any
20 other manner, if the honey contains less than
21 fifty-one per cent honey by weight from that country
22 of origin;



- 1 (3) Use a geographic origin or country of origin in
2 labeling or advertising honey, including in
3 conjunction with a honey style or in any other manner,
4 if the honey used in that product does not meet the
5 grade standard requirements of the United States
6 Department of Agriculture and those rules adopted
7 under chapter 147;
- 8 (4) Misrepresent, on a label or in advertising of a honey,
9 the per cent of Hawaii-produced honey by weight, or
10 the per cent of imported honey by weight, or the
11 country of origin;
- 12 (5) Use the terms "Hawaii honey" or "Hawaiian honey" or
13 similar terms on a label or in advertising of a honey
14 if the honey itself is not produced entirely in the
15 State of Hawaii;
- 16 (6) Use the terms "Product of the USA" or "100% US Grade
17 A" or "100% USA", or similar terms, on a label or in
18 advertising a honey if the honey itself is not
19 produced entirely in the United States of America, or
20 does not meet the grade standard as stated; or
- 21 (7) Use the terms "raw honey", "unprocessed honey",
22 "natural honey", or similar terms if any of the



1 constituent honey in the product has been heated above
2 one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit, filtered
3 through a fine screen of less than one sixty-fourth
4 inch mesh, treated with diatomaceous earth, or in any
5 other way that results in the loss of any natural
6 constituent of honey such as plant pollen and enzymes.

7 (d) Apiculturists, packers, importers, handlers,
8 distributors, or other persons who package and import honey into
9 Hawaii shall maintain for a period of two years records on the
10 volume and country of origin of the honeys and other non-honey
11 sweeteners, including ultrafiltered sweetener, produced,
12 processed, blended, packaged, and sold and any other records
13 required by the department for the purpose of enforcing this
14 section; provided that authorized employees of the department
15 shall have access to these records during normal business hours.

16 (e) For the purpose of this section:

17 "Country of origin" means the country or countries in which
18 all or part of the imported honey was produced, as defined in
19 rules relating to chapter 147 and adopted pursuant to chapter
20 91.

21 "Honey style" means honey-like products that have the
22 flavor of honey but do not contain any honey.



1 "Imported honey" means any honey produced outside of the
2 State of Hawaii.

3 "Per cent of honey by weight" means the percentage
4 calculated by dividing the weight in pounds of honey of one
5 country of origin used in a production run of blended honey, by
6 the total weight in pounds of the honey used in that production
7 run of honey and multiplying the quotient by one hundred.

8 "Processed honey" means honey that has been heated above
9 one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit, or filtered through a
10 fine screen of less than one sixty-fourth inch mesh, or treated
11 with diatomaceous earth, or in any other way that results in the
12 loss of any natural constituent of honey such as plant pollen
13 and enzymes.

14 "Raw honey" and "Unprocessed honey" means honey that has
15 not been heated above one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit, or
16 filtered through a fine screen of less than one sixty-fourth
17 inch mesh, or treated with diatomaceous earth, or in any other
18 way that results in the loss of any natural constituent of honey
19 such as plant pollen and enzymes."

20 SECTION 2. Chapter 147, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by amending the title of part I to read:



1 "PART I. FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, NUTS, HONEY, AND
2 COFFEE"

3 SECTION 3. Section 147-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending the definition of "agricultural commodity"
5 to read as follows:

6 "Agricultural commodity" means fresh fruits and fresh
7 vegetables of every kind and character, whether or not frozen or
8 packed in ice, whether produced in the State or imported, nuts,
9 and coffee, whether cherry[+] or parchment, [x] green beans
10 which have been produced in the State[+], and raw, unprocessed
11 honey, whether produced in the State or imported;"

12 SECTION 4. Chapter 147, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending the title of part II to read:

14 "PART II. EXPORTS: FRUITS, VEGETABLES,
15 NUTS, [AND] COFFEE, AND HONEY"

16 SECTION 5. Section 147-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending the definition of "agricultural commodity"
18 to read as follows:

19 "Agricultural commodity" means fruits, vegetables, nuts,
20 [and] coffee[+], and raw unprocessed honey;"



1 SECTION 6. Section 147-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a definition of "processed honey" to read as
3 follows:

4 "Processed honey" means honey that has been heated above
5 one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit, or filtered through a
6 fine screen of less than one sixty-fourth inch mesh, or treated
7 with diatomaceous earth, or in any other way that results in the
8 loss of any natural constituent of honey such as plant pollen
9 and enzymes."

10 SECTION 7. All honey products and other sweeteners subject
11 to this Act shall comply with the labeling and advertising
12 requirements within one year of the effective date of this Act.

13 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Honey; Sales of Products

Description:

Adds labeling requirements for honey. Adds definitions related to honey in chapter 147, Hawaii Revised Statutes. (SD1)

