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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that empowering children  
2 with knowledge is the most effective way to keep our communities  
3 healthy for the long-term. Teaching healthy eating habits is  
4 essential to addressing the increasing rates of obesity in our  
5 children. Teaching children how to grow their own food and how  
6 to prepare it in a healthy way will enable them to adopt healthy  
7 eating habits and maintain a healthy lifestyle through  
8 adulthood.

9           The legislature further finds that with the decline of the  
10 sugar and pineapple industries in Hawaii, agricultural lands are  
11 evolving into small diversified agricultural farms. Further,  
12 with the demand for landscaping by many public and private  
13 businesses, the landscaping industry is purportedly as large as  
14 the diversified agriculture industry in Hawaii. The legislature  
15 finds that the need for agricultural workers, including  
16 landscaping and other agriculture industry related workers, runs  
17 the gamut in terms of skill-level. There is a critical need for



1 government support to establish an educational infrastructure  
2 that may prepare students for work in the agriculture and  
3 agriculture-related industries. Appropriate programs would  
4 assist in preparing and guiding students who are otherwise  
5 unlikely to pursue higher education into jobs that are in  
6 demand.

7 The purpose of this Act is to support and enhance the  
8 agriculture industry by ensuring the continued supply of  
9 qualified individuals for the industry through:

- 10 (1) The establishment of a comprehensive agriculture  
11 education program that includes but is not limited to  
12 landscape education, culinary arts, farming,  
13 diversified agriculture, and related industries such  
14 as market development and science and technology in  
15 the public schools; and
- 16 (2) The establishment of an agricultural and culinary  
17 education program that teaches students healthy eating  
18 habits and encourages the culinary arts, farming,  
19 diversified agriculture, and related industries such  
20 as market development and science and technology, as  
21 long-term career goals.



1 SECTION 2. Section 302A-431.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 " ~~[§] 302A-431.7 [§] Vocational agriculture]~~ Agriculture  
4 education program. (a) The department shall establish and  
5 administer ~~[a vocational]~~ a comprehensive agriculture education  
6 program. The agriculture education program shall include  
7 adequate staffing of individuals trained or experienced in the  
8 field of ~~[vocational]~~ agriculture to coordinate the program and  
9 to provide assistance to school ~~[districts]~~ complexes for the  
10 coordination of the activities of related student [agricultural]  
11 organizations and associations. For purposes of this section,  
12 the term "agriculture" or "agricultural" shall include the  
13 fields of farming, diversified agriculture, landscaping,  
14 aquaculture, culinary arts, and related industries such as  
15 market development and science and technology.

16 (b) The ~~[vocational]~~ agriculture education program shall  
17 be administered by a director who shall:

- 18 (1) Assess the agricultural needs of the State and devise  
19 methods of meeting those needs with the ~~[vocational]~~  
20 agriculture education program;
- 21 (2) Assist school districts in establishing ~~[vocational]~~  
22 agriculture programs;



- 1 (3) Review school district applications for approval of  
2 [~~vocational~~] agriculture programs;
- 3 (4) Evaluate existing programs;
- 4 (5) Plan research and studies for the improvement of  
5 curriculum materials for specialty areas of  
6 [~~vocational~~] agriculture[+], including aquaculture and  
7 incumbent worker training;
- 8 (6) Ensure that the standards and criteria developed under  
9 this section satisfy the mandates of federally-  
10 assisted vocational education;
- 11 (7) Develop in-service programs for teachers and  
12 administrators of [~~vocational~~] agriculture;
- 13 (8) Review applications for [~~vocational~~] agriculture  
14 teacher certification;
- 15 (9) Assist in teacher recruitment and placement in  
16 [~~vocational~~] agriculture programs;
- 17 (10) Serve as a liaison with the Future Farmers of America,  
18 representatives of business, industry, appropriate  
19 public agencies, and institutions of higher education  
20 to facilitate dissemination of information;
- 21 (11) Promote improvement of [~~vocational~~] agriculture  
22 programs;



- 1 (12) Assist in the development of adult ~~[and]~~, continuing  
2 education, and college-level education programs in  
3 ~~[vocational]~~ agriculture;
- 4 (13) Establish an advisory task force of agriculturists~~[-]~~  
5 and other experts in the field of agriculture, who  
6 represent the diverse areas of the agricultural  
7 industry in the State, that shall make annual  
8 recommendations on the development of curriculum,  
9 staffing, and strategies to establish a source of  
10 trained and qualified individuals in agriculture and  
11 strategies for developing the state program in  
12 ~~[vocational]~~ agriculture education, including youth  
13 leadership throughout the public schools~~[-]~~; and
- 14 (14) Assist in the administration of the agricultural and  
15 culinary education program established in subsection  
16 (c).

17 (c) The department shall establish and administer an  
18 agricultural and culinary education program that integrates  
19 culinary arts with the school lunch program and the agriculture  
20 education program to teach students healthy eating habits and  
21 encourage culinary arts, farming, diversified agriculture, and  
22 related industries such as market development and science and



1 technology as career options. The department of agriculture  
2 shall assist the department with the implementation of this  
3 program.

4 [~~e~~] (d) The department may adopt rules pursuant to  
5 chapter 91 to effectuate this section."

6 SECTION 3. The department of education shall consult with  
7 the department of agriculture and the University of Hawaii's  
8 college of tropical agriculture and human resources and college  
9 of education in the development and implementation of the  
10 agriculture education program established under this Act.

11 SECTION 4. The department of education shall submit a  
12 report to the legislature regarding:

13 (1) Its activities and any requests for funding to further  
14 implement the agriculture education program; and

15 (2) Its development and implementation of the agricultural  
16 and culinary education program,

17 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
18 sessions of 2008 and 2009.

19 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000, or so much  
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
22 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



1 2008-2009, to support and maintain a comprehensive agriculture  
2 education program in the public schools as provided in section 2  
3 of this Act.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
5 of education for the purposes of section 2 of this Act.

6 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
9 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
10 year 2008-2009, for the establishment and administration of the  
11 agricultural and culinary education program as provided in this  
12 Act.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
14 of education for the purposes of establishing and administering  
15 the agricultural and culinary education program pursuant to  
16 section 2 of this Act.

17 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
20 provided that sections 5 and 6 shall take effect on July 1,  
21 2007.



**Report Title:**

Education; Agricultural and Culinary Program

**Description:**

Establishes an agricultural and culinary education program to encourage farming, diversified agriculture, and related industries as long-term career goals, teach students healthy eating habits, and address Hawaii's long-term food sustainability needs. Expands the scope of the agriculture education program in the public schools. Makes appropriations.  
(SD2)

