
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 there has been
2 increased discussion on changing Hawaii's Kona coffee blend
3 laws, in particular, increasing from ten to seventy-five per
4 cent the required percentage of Kona-grown coffee that entitles
5 a coffee to be called "Kona" coffee.

6 In addition, there is support for strengthening the
7 labeling laws to inform consumers properly about coffee's origin
8 and requiring a certification for Kona coffee to ensure a high
9 quality of Kona coffee. The legislature further finds that
10 there is a need to have an objective, reasoned examination of
11 these issues.

12 As Hawaii is the only coffee growing region in the United
13 States, recent years have also seen an increase in other Hawaii
14 regional coffees, and more information is needed to support and
15 promote the coffee industry.

16 The legislature further finds that Senate Concurrent
17 Resolution No. 102, H.D. 1 (2007) was adopted on April 27, 2007,



1 requesting the department of agriculture to study existing
2 labeling requirements relating to the use of the "Kona coffee"
3 or other Hawaii-grown coffee names and the effectiveness of
4 current administrative rules relating to the inspection,
5 certification, and audit requirements for all Hawaii-grown
6 coffee beans.

7 That resolution further specified twelve separate issues to
8 be covered by the department of agriculture's study, which
9 included "a thorough economic analysis of the probable impact of
10 increasing the minimum content requirement to fifty per cent
11 upon each segment of the Kona coffee industry, and each segment
12 of the coffee industry in other parts of the state, such as Ka'u
13 and on islands other than the island of Hawaii". The resolution
14 further requested the department of agriculture to "determine
15 the fiscal impact that stricter labeling requirements or a
16 uniform national labeling requirement standard will have on
17 farmers of small coffee bean farms in Hawaii ... " and "the
18 fiscal impact that a uniform inspection and certification scheme
19 for all Hawaii-grown coffee beans will have on growers of small
20 coffee bean farms".

21 However, the legislature finds that the economic analysis
22 and fiscal impact portions of the department of agriculture's



1 study are a major undertaking requiring funding support, and
2 because appropriations could not be made by resolution, the
3 legislature finds it necessary to now appropriate funds for that
4 purpose through this Act.

5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
6 funds to support the economic analysis and fiscal impact
7 portions of the study that the department of agriculture is
8 currently conducting pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution
9 No. 102 (2007).

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to
13 fund the economic analysis and fiscal impact portions of the
14 study being conducted by the department of agriculture pursuant
15 to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102, H.D. 1 (2007).

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
17 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Kona Coffee; Economic Analysis; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to support the economic analysis and fiscal impact portions of the study being conducted by the department of agriculture pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102, H.D. 1 (2007) regarding Kona coffee issues. (SB2905 SD2)

