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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FARMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) The Hawaii tourism authority shall plan  
2 and implement a food certification pilot program to benefit  
3 small farmers throughout the state.

4           (b) The pilot program shall be managed by the Hawaii  
5 tourism authority; provided that the department of agriculture  
6 and the department of health shall provide the authority with  
7 assistance as necessary in implementing the pilot program. The  
8 pilot program shall:

- 9           (1) Encourage small farmers to form agricultural  
10           cooperatives;
- 11           (2) Coordinate purchasing agreements between the  
12           agricultural cooperatives and hotels, restaurants, and  
13           other buyers in the visitor and hospitality  
14           industries; and
- 15           (3) Develop and implement "safe" food certification for  
16           products under the pilot program to promote fresh,  
17           high-quality, locally-grown produce grown by Hawaii  
18           small farmers.



1 All small farmers operating in the state shall be eligible to  
2 apply for the pilot program.

3 (c) The Hawaii tourism authority shall establish and  
4 manage a separate and distinct special fund to be known as the  
5 food certification pilot program special fund to provide funding  
6 needed to operate the pilot program.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the tourism  
8 special fund the sum of \$160,000 or so much thereof as may be  
9 necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 to be  
11 deposited into the food certification pilot program special fund  
12 established in section 1 of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the food  
14 certification pilot program special fund the sum of \$160,000 or  
15 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010  
16 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
17 fiscal year 2010-2011 for the operations of the food  
18 certification pilot program established in section 1 of this  
19 Act.

20 SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the  
21 Hawaii tourism authority for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*[Handwritten signatures: Jonathan Ryan, Mahesh Nayyar, Calvin K. Lee]*

JAN 27 2009



**Report Title:**

Food Safe Certification; Pilot Program; Small Farmers

**Description:**

Establishes a pilot program to develop safe food certification for small farms that form agricultural cooperatives and establish purchasing agreements with hotels and restaurants.

