
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TARO SECURITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature established the taro security
2 and purity task force (task force) in 2008 to seek solutions to
3 challenges facing taro, taro farmers, and taro markets. The
4 task force published the report "The Taro Lives; Abundance
5 Returns to the Land" in 2009, which represents the first time
6 that guidance for taro, taro research, and the problems facing
7 taro farmers comes from the farmers and from the taro itself.

8 The legislature finds that the task force developed
9 recommendations that need implementation. The task force
10 members are dedicated to continuing their work to implement the
11 recommended policies and programs.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
13 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
14 read as follows:

15 "§10- Taro security; funding. (a) The office may seek
16 available federal, state, county, or private funding to restore
17 taro and lo'i cultivation. The office shall cooperate with other



1 public and private agencies, as appropriate, in applying for
2 funds pursuant to this section.

3 (b) The office may use and distribute funds received
4 pursuant to subsection (a) for projects that use taro for:

5 (1) Flood control;

6 (2) Wetland restoration and preservation;

7 (3) Food security;

8 (4) Community economic development;

9 (5) Job creation;

10 (6) Education; and

11 (7) Water-quality protection."

12 SECTION 3. Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, section
13 2, is amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

14 "(e) The task force shall submit a preliminary report to
15 the legislature documenting the status of its progress no later
16 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
17 of 2009. The task force shall submit a final report to the
18 legislature summarizing its program, the results achieved,
19 actual expenditures, and recommended legislation no later than
20 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
21 2010.



1 The task force shall implement the recommendations in the
2 final report submitted prior to the regular session of 2010, and
3 shall submit a preliminary report to the legislature documenting
4 the status of implementation no later than twenty days prior to
5 the convening of the regular session of 2014. The task force
6 shall submit a final report to the legislature summarizing its
7 implementation accomplishments no later than twenty days prior
8 to the convening of the regular session of 2015."

9 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:
Taro Security

Description:

Authorizes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to seek funding for projects that increase the cultivation and use of taro. Requires the Taro Security and Purity Task Force to implement the recommendations in their report submitted pursuant to Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, and submit a final report on implementation prior the convening of the Regular Session of 2015. (HB2832 CD1)

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