
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONVENE AN
AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP TO RECOMMEND STRUCTURAL CHANGES
TO MEET THE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF HAWAII'S
AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

1 WHEREAS, for decades the call has been made for more
2 agricultural self-sufficiency for the State to limit the need
3 for importing the produce and commodities that are consumed in-
4 state; and

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6 WHEREAS, the recent specter of worldwide pandemics has
7 heightened the concerns to raise the level of agricultural self-
8 sufficiency within the State; and

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10 WHEREAS, additionally, with our year-round growing seasons
11 and expanding growth in our seed industry and overall
12 agricultural technology industry, agriculture can become a
13 significant economic driver in bringing revenue into the State
14 through the export of agricultural products; and

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16 WHEREAS, like economies worldwide, Hawaii's farmers have
17 been severely impacted by global, national, and local economic
18 upheavals causing businesses to close or teeter on the brink of
19 closure; and

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21 WHEREAS, the economic downturn has resulted in severe
22 budget cuts to state agricultural programs and reduced federal
23 and private grants to government and nongovernmental agencies;
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, there is a need to review our present situation
27 and consider dramatic and radical reforms in restructuring to
28 these new economic, social, and environmental paradigms; now,
29 therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference
4 Bureau is requested to convene, in collaboration with the Hawaii
5 Farm Bureau Federation, a working group comprised of
6 stakeholders in the State's agricultural industry to assess and
7 advise the Legislature and Governor of recommended structural
8 changes to meet the needs and opportunities of Hawaii's
9 agricultural industry in the twenty-first century; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is requested that the
12 working group be comprised of:

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14 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
15 Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, or the Chairperson's
16 designated representative, who is requested to chair
17 the working group;
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19 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the
20 Chairperson's designated representative;
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22 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
23 Resources, or the Chairperson's designated
24 representative;
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26 (4) The Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and
27 Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa, or the
28 Dean's designated representative;
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30 (5) The State Executive Director of the Farm Service
31 Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, or
32 the Director's designated representative;
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34 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
35 Hawaii Agricultural Resource Center, or the
36 Chairperson's designated representative;
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38 (7) The Chairperson of the Board of the Agribusiness
39 Development Corporation, or the Chairperson's
40 designated representative; and
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1 (8) Working agriculturalists, including but not limited to
2 agriculturalists from the fields of the seed and high
3 technology sector, cattle and dairy industry, fresh
4 produce and tropical fruit industry, poultry industry,
5 and aquaculture and mariculture industry; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
8 to explore ways to:
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- 10 (1) Define the state government's role in supporting the
11 growth of agricultural self-sufficiency and growth
12 with the objective of increased and sustained
13 exportation of agricultural products from the State;
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- 15 (2) Reevaluate the role of various state departments and
16 agencies, identify duplication, and suggest
17 streamlining of functions as it relates to
18 agriculture;
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- 20 (3) Utilize federal and county programs, including ways to
21 increase access to federal programs and grants by
22 Hawaii's agricultural industry, and identify long-term
23 working relationships with various federal and county
24 agencies; and
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- 26 (4) Identify private partnerships to reduce dependence on
27 government; and
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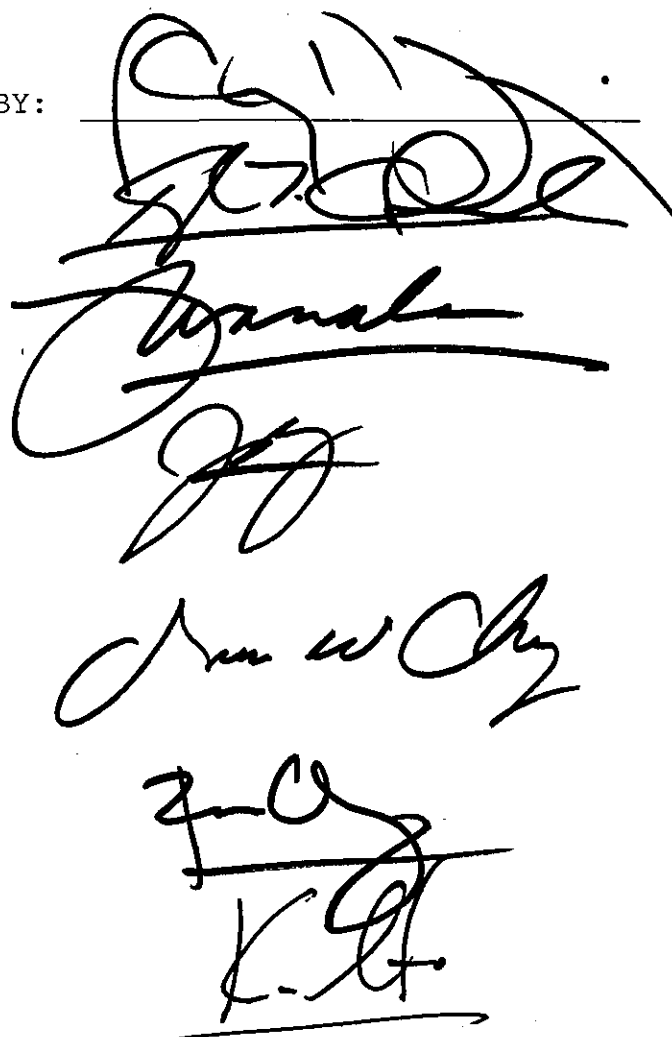
29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
30 Bureau is requested to submit a report of the working group's
31 findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation to the
32 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
33 the Regular Session of 2011; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
37 Legislative Reference Bureau; the Chairperson of the Board of
38 Directors of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; the Chairperson
39 of the Board of Agriculture; the Chairperson of the Board of
40 Land and Natural Resources; the Dean of the College of Tropical
41 Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa;



1 the Chairperson of Board of the Agribusiness Development
2 Corporation; Hawaii Food and Agriculture Council; United States
3 Department of Agriculture; and the Chairperson of the Board of
4 Directors of the Hawaii Agricultural Resource Center.
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OFFERED BY:



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