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## HOUSE 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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31           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
32 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
33 of 2010, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to



1 convene, in collaboration with the Hawaii Farm Bureau  
2 Federation, a working group comprised of stakeholders in the  
3 State's agricultural industry to assess and advise the  
4 Legislature and Governor of recommended structural changes to  
5 meet the needs and opportunities of Hawaii's agricultural  
6 industry in the twenty-first century; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is requested that the  
9 working group be comprised of:

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- 11 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the  
12 Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, or the Chairperson's  
13 designated representative, who is requested to chair  
14 the working group;  
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  - 16 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the  
17 Chairperson's designated representative;  
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  - 19 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
20 Resources, or the Chairperson's designated  
21 representative;  
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  - 23 (4) The Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and  
24 Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa, or the  
25 Dean's designated representative;  
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  - 27 (5) The State Executive Director of the Farm Service  
28 Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, or  
29 the Director's designated representative;  
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  - 31 (6) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the  
32 Hawaii Agricultural Resource Center, or the  
33 Chairperson's designated representative;  
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  - 35 (7) The Chairperson of the Board of the Agribusiness  
36 Development Corporation, or the Chairperson's  
37 designated representative; and  
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  - 39 (8) Working agriculturalists, including but not limited to  
40 agriculturalists from the fields of the seed and high  
41 technology sector, cattle and dairy industry, fresh



1 produce and tropical fruit industry, poultry industry,  
2 and aquaculture and mariculture industry; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
5 to explore ways to:  
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- 7 (1) Define the state government's role in supporting the  
8 growth of agricultural self-sufficiency and growth  
9 with the objective of increased and sustained  
10 exportation of agricultural products from the State;  
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- 12 (2) Reevaluate the role of various state departments and  
13 agencies, identify duplication, and suggest  
14 streamlining of functions as it relates to  
15 agriculture;  
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- 17 (3) Utilize federal and county programs, including ways to  
18 increase access to federal programs and grants by  
19 Hawaii's agricultural industry, and identify long-term  
20 working relationships with various federal and county  
21 agencies; and  
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- 23 (4) Identify private partnerships to reduce dependence on  
24 government; and  
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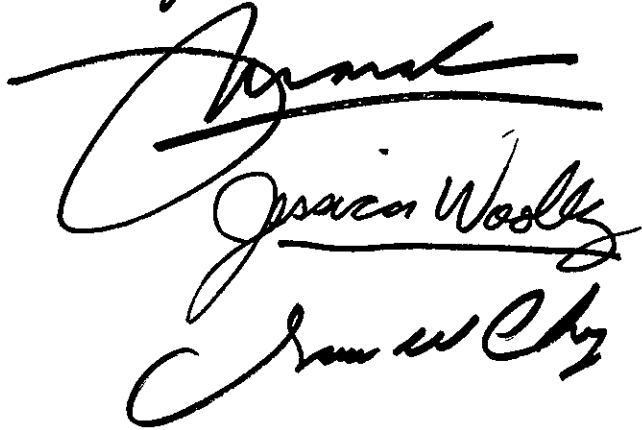
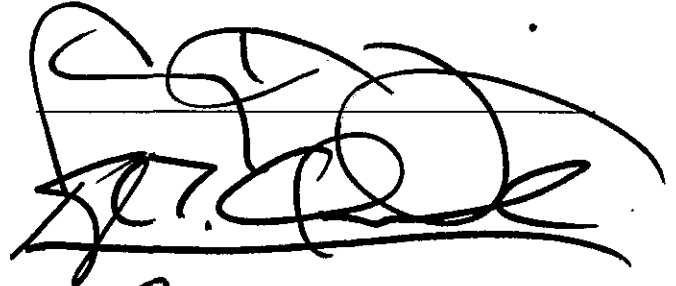
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
27 Bureau is requested to submit a report of the working group's  
28 findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation to the  
29 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
30 the Regular Session of 2011; and  
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Legislative  
34 Reference Bureau; the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of  
35 the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; the Chairperson of the Board  
36 of Agriculture; the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
37 Resources; the Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and  
38 Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa; the Chairperson  
39 of Board of the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawaii  
40 Food and Agriculture Council; United States Department of



1 Agriculture; and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of  
2 the Hawaii Agricultural Resource Center.  
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 08 2010

