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# 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 Hawaii's beekeepers  
2 are experiencing devastating losses in their industry due to a  
3 combination of bad weather and the infestation of varroa mites,  
4 nosema spores, and small hive beetles. Unofficial counts  
5 indicate that thousands of bee colonies in Hawaii have died off,  
6 but the exact numbers remain unknown. Currently, state  
7 agricultural officials do not compile statistics on the  
8 production of queen bees in Hawaii, in part because the industry  
9 is small and also because of issues relating to proprietary  
10 information.

11           The purpose of this Act is to allow beekeepers to register  
12 with the department of agriculture, with the information to be  
13 kept confidential.

14           SECTION 2. Chapter 142, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
16 and to read as follows:

17           "§142-       Beekeepers; registration. (a) Beekeepers may  
18 register with the department of agriculture, on forms prescribed



1 and prepared by the department, which shall include the  
2 following information:

3 (1) The name, address, and contact information for the  
4 beekeeper; and

5 (2) Other information that may assist the department in  
6 compiling accurate information on Hawaii's beekeeping  
7 industry.

8 (b) The information shall be confidential and the  
9 department shall not disclose the information; provided that the  
10 name and business address of each registrant shall be made  
11 publicly available by the department; and provided further that  
12 the department may compile statistics based on the information,  
13 pursuant to section 141-1.

14 (c) The registration shall be effective for a period of  
15 one year, and shall be renewed at the end of the one-year  
16 period."

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$350,000 or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the  
20 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
21 2012-2013 to establish an apiary program, including permanent  
22 positions as follows:



- 1           (1) One apiary specialist;  
2           (2) One apiary planner; and  
3           (3) Two apiary technicians.

4           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
5 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

6           SECTION 4. The department of agriculture shall report to  
7 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
8 of the regular session of 2013 on the effectiveness of the  
9 beekeeper registration in keeping accurate statistics on the  
10 beekeeping industry, and any recommendations for amendments.

11          SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

12          SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
13 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,  
14 2011.



**Report Title:**

Beekeeping; Registration

**Description:**

Allows beekeepers to register with the department of agriculture. Appropriates funds for apiary program. (HB866 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

