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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. Global natural farming is an agricultural  
2 methodology developed and refined over the past fifty years by  
3 Han Kyu Cho of the Republic of Korea. Cho's techniques have  
4 been demonstrated world-wide in more than thirty countries as a  
5 viable method of agricultural production without the use of  
6 conventional and imported pesticides and fertilizers.

7           Cho's global natural farming is a distinctive approach to  
8 organic farming that utilizes local natural farm resources and  
9 indigenous microorganisms. It involves the propagation of  
10 mycorrhizae along with protocols for adding specific nutritional  
11 inputs during critical growth stages of plants. The inputs are  
12 not only safe for the environment, but they actually  
13 rehabilitate the ecology.

14           In addition to the promotion of environmental protection,  
15 global natural farming has numerous, more tangible benefits.  
16 There are currently six acres of land in Waianae, Oahu being  
17 used for the natural farming of Vietnamese taro and Thai basil.  
18 Since the natural farming project was commenced in June 2010,



1 product quality has been improved, product yields have  
2 increased, and production costs and water consumption have been  
3 reduced.

4 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
5 agriculture to establish a program to award grants to farmers  
6 who implement natural farming.

7 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
8 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
9 as follows:

10 "CHAPTER

11 NATURAL FARMING GRANT PROGRAM

12 § -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

13 "Agricultural producer" has the same meaning as defined in  
14 section 155-5.6.

15 "Department" means the department of agriculture.

16 § -2 **Natural farming grant program established.** The  
17 department shall establish a natural farming grant program,  
18 under which the department shall award grants to qualified  
19 agricultural producers who utilize the Cho global natural  
20 farming methodology. The department shall accept applications,  
21 on forms prescribed and prepared by the department, from



1 agricultural producers to qualify for receipt of the grants,  
2 provided that:

- 3 (1) The applicant is an agricultural producer;
- 4 (2) The applicant has implemented or demonstrates to the  
5 department's satisfaction that the applicant intends  
6 to implement the Cho global natural farming  
7 methodology;
- 8 (3) The grant shall not exceed per cent of the  
9 applicant's total agricultural production costs or  
10 exceed \$ in any year; and
- 11 (4) The department may request that an applicant provide  
12 any information, including general excise and income  
13 tax returns, it deems necessary to verify the  
14 agricultural production costs incurred by any  
15 applicant in any year.

16 § -3 **Rules.** The department shall adopt rules, pursuant  
17 to chapter 91, to implement this chapter.

18 § -4 **Exemption from chapter 42F.** The provisions of  
19 chapter 42F shall not apply to the grants made pursuant to this  
20 chapter, but all grants shall be made only in accordance with  
21 standards and conditions specified in section -2."

1 SECTION 3. Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§42F-102[+] **Applications for grants and subsidies.**

4 [~~Requests~~] Except for grants awarded under chapter \_\_\_\_\_,  
5 requests for grants and subsidies shall be submitted to the  
6 appropriate standing committees of the legislature at the start  
7 of each regular session of the legislature. Each request shall  
8 state:

- 9 (1) The name of the requesting organization;
- 10 (2) The public purpose for the grant or subsidy;
- 11 (3) The services to be supported by the grant or subsidy;
- 12 (4) The target group; and
- 13 (5) The cost of the grant or subsidy and the budget."

14 SECTION 4. Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) [~~Grants~~] Except for grants awarded under chapter  
17 \_\_\_\_\_, grants and subsidies shall be awarded only to individuals  
18 who, and organizations that:

- 19 (1) Are licensed or accredited, in accordance with
- 20 federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or
- 21 ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the
- 22 services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded;



- 1           (2) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws
- 2           prohibiting discrimination against any person on the
- 3           basis of race, color, national origin, religion,
- 4           creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
- 5           (3) Agree not to use state funds for entertainment or
- 6           lobbying activities; and
- 7           (4) Allow the state agency to which funds for the grant or
- 8           subsidy were appropriated for expenditure, legislative
- 9           committees and their staff, and the auditor full
- 10          access to their records, reports, files, and other
- 11          related documents and information for purposes of
- 12          monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring
- 13          the proper expenditure of the grant or subsidy."

14           SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the  
17 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
18 2012-2013 for the natural farming grant program established by  
19 this Act.

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



# H.B. NO. 947

1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Karen Awana*  
*John M. P. Jones*  
*W*  
*J.P.*  
*Sharon*  
*[Signature]*

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**Report Title:**

Agriculture; Natural Farming; Grants

**Description:**

Requires the department of agriculture to establish a program to award grants to agricultural producers who implement natural farming, including methods such as Cho global. Makes an appropriation.

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

