

JAN 20 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§141- Farm leases. (a) Notwithstanding any provisions
5 in chapter 171 to the contrary, the department may enter into
6 leases with qualified farmers to lease land under its
7 jurisdiction for the purpose of food production.

8 (b) Leases entered into under this section shall:

9 (1) Be leased at a rate of per cent less than the
10 market rate for similar land; and

11 (2) Contain provisions for the immediate eviction of
12 lessees who do not abide by the terms of the lease.

13 (c) For purposes of this section, "qualified farmer" means
14 a person of proven farming ability who is presently devoting,
15 has recently devoted, or intends to devote most of the person's
16 time or who derives a major portion of the person's income from
17 direct participation in farming in its broadest sense.



1 (d) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
2 91 to administer and implement this section."

3 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Mike Gatto
Clarence A. Richardson

Phil Ryan
Will Ezyro

Matt

Erzanne Chun Oakland

Phil Gish
Randy de Bab

Jim

Michelle Kelani

Arvid

Michael

Carol Fukushima

David



S.B. NO. 2514

Report Title:

Agriculture; Farming

Description:

Authorizes the department of agriculture to lease land under its jurisdiction to qualified farmers at a reduced rate for food production. Requires the department of agriculture to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, HRS, to administer and implement the lease program.

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