

JAN 25 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature established the Hawaii State
2 Planning Act, codified in chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
3 to, among other things, "identify the goals, objectives,
4 policies, and priorities for the State" and "provide a basis for
5 determining priorities and allocating limited resources, such as
6 public funds, services, human resources, land, energy, water,
7 and other resources."

8 The legislature finds that the Hawaii State Planning Act
9 asserts that it shall be the policy of the State to "[p]romote
10 economically competitive activities that increase Hawaii's
11 agricultural self-sufficiency" and "[i]ncrease the
12 attractiveness and opportunities for an agricultural education
13 and livelihood." The legislature further finds that the Act
14 ensures and supports quality education that is accessible, and
15 ensures environmentally healthful and sanitary conditions for
16 all Hawaii residents.

17 The legislature further finds that supporting Hawaii's
18 agriculture education and school farms is in line with these



1 policy guidelines. In order for Hawaii to continue toward
2 agricultural sustainability, it is necessary to educate future
3 farmers and ensure the place of local agricultural products in
4 Hawaii's markets.

5 An important aspect of any agricultural education is that
6 of food safety. The United States Department of Agriculture
7 regularly updates food safety standards and it is imperative to
8 include these standards, along with other requirements imposed
9 upon farms in the State, in the agricultural curriculum.

10 In addition, there is a place for school farms in the
11 growing farm to school movement. Students of agriculture can
12 build their skills and knowledge while at the same time
13 providing fresh, local produce to Hawaii's school cafeterias.
14 This can only be the case, however, if the public can be certain
15 that food grown on a school farm is safe for consumption.

16 The purposes of this Act, therefore, are to support
17 agricultural education and school farms by requiring the
18 University of Hawaii to:

- 19 (1) Establish a center for agricultural leadership that
20 will be primarily responsible for developing the next
21 generation of agricultural leaders and will conduct
22 activities, including pilot projects and demonstration



1 projects to improve agricultural education in the
2 State; and

3 (2) Establish a school farm pilot project within the
4 center for agricultural leadership to determine the
5 steps necessary for school farms to achieve food
6 safety certification by the department of agriculture.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new subpart to part IV to be appropriately
9 designated and to read as follows:

10 " . CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP

11 **§304A- Center for agricultural leadership;**

12 **establishment.** (a) There is established within the University
13 of Hawaii a center for agricultural leadership to:

14 (1) Encourage the development of agricultural education
15 within the State;

16 (2) Provide opportunities for agriculture teacher
17 education; and

18 (3) Make a positive difference in the lives of students
19 and develop their potential for premier leadership,
20 personal growth, and career success through
21 agricultural education.



1 (b) The center for agricultural leadership shall
2 collaborate with the department of education and other relevant
3 organizations and agencies to fulfill its purpose.

4 **§304A- Director; center for agricultural leadership.**

5 (a) The center for agricultural leadership shall be headed by a
6 director who shall:

7 (1) Be responsible for the mission, direction, and goals
8 of the center;

9 (2) Develop partnerships with agricultural organizations
10 and stakeholders to further the center's mission and
11 objectives;

12 (3) Maintain and support the Future Farmers of America
13 program or successor organization within the State;
14 and

15 (4) Recommend projects and programs to promote the
16 expansion and development of the agricultural industry
17 in Hawaii.

18 (b) The director of the center for agricultural leadership
19 shall be appointed by the board of regents upon recommendation
20 by the president. The director may hire staff as necessary to
21 carry out the work of the center."



1 SECTION 3. (a) The University of Hawaii shall establish a
2 two-year pilot project within the center for agricultural
3 leadership to determine the steps necessary for farms operated
4 through school programs to achieve food safety certification by
5 the department of agriculture. The pilot project shall be
6 conducted at one high school in each county. In order to be
7 chosen for this pilot project, a high school must currently
8 maintain a school farm that has a high likelihood of meeting
9 current food safety certification requirements.

10 (b) The pilot project established under subsection (a)
11 shall, at minimum:

12 (1) Assess the current operations of the school farm;

13 (2) Determine the requirements of department of
14 agriculture food safety certification;

15 (3) Interface with the department of agriculture to
16 identify any potential barriers to school farm food
17 safety certification and generate remedies to such
18 barriers; and

19 (4) Incorporate the process of food safety certification
20 into any agriculture-related curriculum associated
21 with the school farm.



1 (c) The University of Hawaii shall submit a progress
2 report on the implementation of the school farm pilot project,
3 including any difficulties encountered, to the legislature no
4 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
5 session of 2013, and a final report, including any
6 recommendations for legislation, no later than twenty days prior
7 to the convening of the regular session of 2014.

8 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to
11 implement the purposes of this Act.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
13 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: *Gilbert Keolu*



S.B. NO. 3005

Report Title:

Agricultural Education; Pilot Project; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii to establish a Center for Agricultural Leadership. Requires the University of Hawaii to establish a two-year pilot project at one high school campus in each county to determine the steps necessary for a school farm to be food safety certified by the Department of Agriculture.

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