

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO PURCHASE AGRICULTURAL LAND FROM DOLE FOOD COMPANY, INC.

WHEREAS, article XI, section 3, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii mandates that the State shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency, and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands; and

WHEREAS, the State imports eighty-five to ninety percent of its food; and

WHEREAS, the State has approximately 494,407 acres of agricultural land classified from very good to fair; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Planning, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, prepared a report detailing a strategy to increase food security and food self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, the report advises the State to improve agricultural infrastructure, including parks, irrigation systems and distribution systems/facilities; and to support multifunctional food hub facilities or food incubator facilities to handle aggregation, processing, treatment, and distribution; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature supports the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Parks Program, which provides public lands at reasonable cost and long-term tenure to farmers; and

WHEREAS, the State recently acquired approximately 1,700 acres of fallow agricultural land formerly known as the Galbraith Estate; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,200 acres of the land formerly known as the Galbraith Estate has been transferred to the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and

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WHEREAS, Dole Food Company, Inc. has listed 123 parcels for
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    sale totaling approximately 22,500 acres identified by tax map
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    keys 6-1-02-01, 6-1-02-23, 6-1-02-24, 6-2-02-02, 6-2-02-04,
    6-2-02-23, 6-2-05-02, 6-2-05-35, 6-2-06-01, 6-2-06-06,
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    6-2-07-02, 6-2-07-04, 6-2-07-07, 6-2-07-08, 6-2-07-11,
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    6-2-08-01, 6-2-08-04, 6-2-08-05, 6-2-08-06, 6-2-08-08,
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    6-2-08-09, 6-2-08-10, 6-2-08-11, 6-2-08-16, 6-2-08-19,
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    6-2-10-02, 6-2-10-03, 6-2-10-04, 6-2-10-06, 6-2-10-10,
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    6-2-10-11, 6-2-10-12, 6-2-11-02, 6-2-11-03, 6-2-11-04,
    6-2-11-05, 6-2-11-06, 6-2-11-07, 6-2-11-08, 6-2-11-09,
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    6-2-11-10, 6-2-11-13, 6-2-11-16, 6-2-11-17, 6-2-11-18,
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    6-2-11-19, 6-2-11-20, 6-3-01-02, 6-3-01-03, 6-3-01-05,
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    6-4-01-01, 6-4-01-04, 6-4-01-05, 6-4-01-12, 6-4-02-01,
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    6-4-03-01, 6-4-03-03, 6-4-04-01, 6-4-04-06, 6-4-04-08,
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    6-5-01-14, 6-5-01-44, 6-5-01-45, 6-5-01-46, 6-5-02-01,
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    6-5-02-05, 6-5-02-06, 6-5-02-07, 6-5-02-08, 6-5-02-11,
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    6-5-02-18, 6-5-02-19, 6-5-02-23, 6-5-05-02, 6-5-05-03,
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    6-5-05-04, 6-6-10-10, 6-6-12-01, 6-6-14-04, 6-6-22-01,
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    6-6-23-03, 6-6-24-01, 6-6-25-01, 6-6-25-02, 6-6-25-06,
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    6-6-27-08, 6-6-27-09, 6-6-27-10, 6-7-01-05, 6-7-01-08,
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    6-7-01-26, 6-7-01-30, 6-7-01-34, 6-7-01-37, 6-7-01-63,
21
    6-7-02-04, 6-7-02-14, 6-7-02-35, 6-7-02-36, 6-7-02-46,
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    6-7-03-02, 6-7-03-05, 6-7-03-06, 6-7-03-07, 6-7-03-09,
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    6-7-03-10, 6-7-03-11, 6-7-03-17, 6-7-04-01, 6-7-04-04,
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    6-7-09-03, 6-7-13-07, 6-8-02-05, 6-8-03-09, 6-8-06-17,
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    6-8-07-05, 7-1-02-04, 7-1-02-06, 7-1-02-23, 7-1-02-34,
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    7-1-02-35, 7-1-02-36, 7-2-01-03; and
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         WHEREAS, the total asking price for the purchase of Dole
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    Food Company, Inc.'s land is between $175,000,000 and
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    $200,000,000; and
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         WHEREAS, the State can float general obligation bonds and
    revenue bonds that do not exceed its annual debt service
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    limitations;
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         WHEREAS, the bonds are to be paid back from tenants with
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    current leases including revenues from the Waiahole Ditch;
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         WHEREAS, lands that are suitable for conservation or
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    preservation should be transferred to the Department of Land and
    Natural Resources; now, therefore,
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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, that this body supports and urges the State to purchase 123 parcels of agricultural land, totaling approximately 22,500 acres, from Dole Food Company, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture.

MAR 1 3 2013

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