

JAN 18 2013

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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 food safety is a  
2 significant concern for residents in Hawaii and the United  
3 States. However, the issue of food safety cannot be addressed  
4 in a vacuum and involves collaboration amongst various state and  
5 federal agencies. The federal Food Safety Modernization Act was  
6 enacted with the express purpose of addressing food safety and  
7 agriculture. The United States Food and Drug Administration, in  
8 partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture, is  
9 crafting the necessary rules to implement the Food Safety  
10 Modernization Act. While the federal regulations for the Food  
11 Safety Modernization Act have not been finalized, the State of  
12 Hawaii wishes to proactively examine good agricultural practices  
13 that will improve the overall safety of the food Hawaii grows  
14 and eats.

15       United States Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Kathleen  
16 Merrigan, has partnered with FamilyFarmed.org to create an  
17 online tool that enables produce growers to create customized  
18 food safety plans. The use of this tool is voluntary but would



1 provide growers the ability to assess risks specific to their  
2 farms and suggest practices to mitigate those risks. In a  
3 similar fashion, the State of Hawaii wishes to work with  
4 agriculture producers to develop preventative measures that will  
5 address inherent risks in farming and ranching practices. The  
6 preventative measures will address practices throughout the food  
7 supply system, from the foods' origin on the farm to its  
8 ultimate destination, the wholesaler or retailer.

9 In addressing good agricultural practices and preventative  
10 measures from farm to wholesaler, one vital component to address  
11 is integrated pest management. Safe practices on farms cannot  
12 be addressed without addressing the use of pesticides. A good  
13 integrated pest management system would incorporate proper  
14 sanitation practices, physical barriers, bio-control, and the  
15 use of pesticides as a last resort.

16 The purpose of this Act is to mitigate the risks involved  
17 in food production by establishing a task force to identify good  
18 agricultural practices and preventative measure guidelines to  
19 ensure safe food throughout the farm-to-consumer food supply  
20 system.

21 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a good agricultural  
22 practices task force to identify good agricultural practices and



1 preventative measure guidelines in the food supply system to  
2 improve the overall safety of locally grown food.

3 (b) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the  
4 chairperson's designee shall serve as chair of the task force.

5 (c) The task force shall be composed of:

6 (1) The director of health, or the director's designee;

7 (2) The dean of the University of Hawaii college of  
8 tropical agriculture and human resources or the dean's  
9 designee;

10 (3) The chair of the senate committee on agriculture;

11 (4) The chair of the house of representatives committee on  
12 agriculture;

13 (5) The president of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation or  
14 the president's designee;

15 (6) The president of the Hawaii Farmer's Union United or  
16 the president's designee; and

17 (7) Four representatives from agricultural producers  
18 statewide selected by the governor.

19 (d) The food safety task force shall:

20 (1) Develop good agricultural practices and preventative  
21 measure guidelines for agricultural producers to



1 follow to mitigate food safety risks that may arise  
2 throughout the farm-to-consumer food supply system.

3 (2) Research other state, county, and organizational  
4 policies and suggested best practices related to food  
5 safety that may arise in the farm-to-consumer supply  
6 system.

7 (e) The task force shall report its findings and  
8 recommendations to the legislature no later than twenty days  
9 prior to the convening of the 2014 regular session, and shall be  
10 dissolved on December 31, 2013.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for  
14 administrative costs associated with the good agricultural  
15 practices task force to include statewide meetings. The  
16 appropriation made for the purposes authorized under this  
17 section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which  
18 the appropriations are made; provided that any balance of any  
19 appropriation that is not encumbered as of June 30, 2015, shall  
20 lapse as of that date.

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



# S.B. NO. 326

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:



Cleena V. Michikava

Malena J. ...

... White

Mike Hubbard

~~...~~ D.C. Reich-Argon



# S.B. NO. 326

**Report Title:**

Good Agricultural Practices Task Force; Food Safety;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Creates and appropriates funds for a good agricultural practices task force to develop food safety guidelines for locally farmed products.

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

