
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 farmers, large
5 and small; consumers; and various state and federal agencies.
6 The federal Food Safety Modernization Act was enacted with the
7 express purpose of addressing food safety and agriculture
8 issues. The United States Food and Drug Administration, in
9 partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture, is
10 crafting the necessary rules to implement the Food Safety
11 Modernization Act. While the federal regulations for the Food
12 Safety Modernization Act have not been finalized, the State of
13 Hawaii intends to proactively examine good agricultural
14 practices that will improve the overall safety of the food the
15 residents of Hawaii grow and eat and provide farmers with rules
16 that address locally-based concerns.

17 United States Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Kathleen
18 Merrigan, partnered with FamilyFarmed.org to create an online



1 tool that enables produce growers to create customized food
2 safety plans. The use of this tool is voluntary but would
3 provide growers the ability to assess risks specific to their
4 farms and suggest practices to mitigate those risks. In a
5 similar fashion, the State of Hawaii intends to work with
6 agriculture producers to develop preventative measures that will
7 address inherent risks involved in current farming and ranching
8 practices. The preventative measures will address practices
9 throughout the food supply system, from the foods' origin on the
10 farm to its ultimate destination, the wholesaler or retailer.

11 In addressing good agricultural practices and preventative
12 measures from farm to wholesaler, one vital component to address
13 is integrated pest management. Safe practices on farms cannot
14 be addressed without addressing the proper use of pesticides. A
15 good integrated pest management system incorporates proper
16 sanitation practices, physical barriers, bio-control, and use of
17 pesticides when necessary.

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



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a good agricultural
2 practices task force to identify and develop good agricultural
3 practices and preventative measure guidelines in the food supply
4 system to improve the overall safety of locally grown food.

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

7 (c) Notwithstanding section 26-34, Hawaii Revised
8 Statutes, the task force shall be composed of:

- 9 (1) The director of health, or the director's designee;
- 10 (2) The dean of the University of Hawaii college of
11 tropical agriculture and human resources or the dean's
12 designee;
- 13 (3) The chair of the senate committee on agriculture;
- 14 (4) The chair of the house of representatives committee on
15 agriculture;
- 16 (5) The president of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation or
17 the president's designee;
- 18 (6) The president of the Hawaii Farmer's Union United or
19 the president's designee;
- 20 (7) Four representatives from agricultural producers
21 statewide selected by the governor, at least one of
22 which represents the interests of organic farmers; and



1 (8) One representative appointed by the governor from each
2 of the following industries, who shall be requested to
3 serve:

- 4 (A) Wholesale distribution;
- 5 (B) Manufacturing;
- 6 (C) Retail;
- 7 (D) Hotels;
- 8 (E) Restaurants; and
- 9 (F) Farmers' markets.

10 (d) The food safety task force shall:

11 (1) Identify and develop good agricultural practices and
12 preventative measure guidelines for agricultural
13 producers to follow, in order to mitigate food safety
14 risks that may arise throughout the farm-to-consumer
15 food supply system; and

16 (2) Research other state, county, and organizational
17 policies and suggested best practices related to food
18 safety that may arise in the farm-to-consumer supply
19 system.

20 (e) The task force shall submit a report of its findings,
21 recommendations, and proposed legislation to the legislature, no



1 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
2 session of 2014, and shall be dissolved on July 1, 2014.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.



Report Title:

Good Agricultural Practices Task Force; Food Safety

Description:

Creates a Good Agricultural Practices Task Force to identify and develop food safety guidelines for locally farmed products.

(CD1)

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

