
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 issues. The United States Food and Drug
8 Administration, in partnership with the United States Department
9 of Agriculture, is crafting the necessary rules to implement the
10 Food Safety Modernization Act. While the federal regulations
11 for the Food Safety Modernization Act have not been finalized,
12 the State of Hawaii intends to proactively examine good
13 agricultural practices that will improve the overall safety of
14 the food the residents of Hawaii grow and eat.

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 intends to work with
4 agriculture producers to develop preventative measures that will
5 address inherent risks involved in current farming and ranching
6 practices. The preventative measures will address practices
7 throughout the food supply system, from the foods' origin on the
8 farm to its 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 proper use of pesticides. A
13 good 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 health and food
17 safety risks involved in food production by establishing a task
18 force to identify good agricultural practices and preventative
19 measure guidelines to ensure safe food throughout the farm-to-
20 consumer food supply 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) Notwithstanding section 26-34, Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes, the task force shall be composed of:

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 (7) Four representatives from agricultural producers
19 statewide selected by the governor; and

20 (8) One representative appointed by the governor from each
21 of the following industries, who shall be requested to
22 serve:



1 (A) Wholesale distribution;

2 (B) Manufacturing;

3 (C) Retail;

4 (D) Hotel; and

5 (E) Restaurant.

6 (d) The food safety task force shall:

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

12 (2) Research other state, county, and organizational
13 policies and suggested best practices related to food
14 safety that may arise in the farm-to-consumer supply
15 system.

16 (e) The task force shall submit a report its findings,
17 recommendations, and proposed legislation to the legislature, no
18 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2014
19 regular session, and shall be dissolved on July 1, 2014.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for



1 administrative costs associated with the good agricultural
2 practices task force to include statewide meetings. The
3 appropriation made for the purposes authorized under this
4 section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which
5 the appropriations are made; provided that any balance of any
6 appropriation that is not encumbered as of June 30, 2015, shall
7 lapse as of that date.

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

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.



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. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD1)

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