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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SECURITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in the event of an  
2 emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine where state harbors  
3 and airports would be closed for an indefinite period of time,  
4 the issue of food security would become of paramount importance.  
5 It is imperative that the legislature act now to address food  
6 security issues stemming from catastrophic events that could  
7 entirely prevent cargo ships from reaching port or aircraft from  
8 air dropping supplies, leaving the State completely self-reliant  
9 to meet the food needs of the people.

10           The purpose of this Act is to establish a food security  
11 task force to develop an emergency food plan for the State that  
12 addresses certain food security issues resulting from an  
13 emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine.

14           SECTION 2. (a) There is established at the national  
15 disaster preparedness training center at the University of  
16 Hawaii for administrative purposes a temporary food security  
17 task force.



1 (b) The task force shall develop an emergency food plan  
2 for the State that addresses certain food security issues  
3 resulting from an emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine  
4 that leaves the State completely self-reliant to meet the food  
5 needs of the people.

6 (c) The executive director of the national disaster  
7 preparedness training center at the University of Hawaii, or the  
8 executive director's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the  
9 task force.

10 (d) In addition to the executive director of the national  
11 disaster preparedness training center at the University of  
12 Hawaii, the task force shall consist of the following members or  
13 their representatives:

- 14 (1) The adjutant general and director of civil defense;
- 15 (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural  
16 resources;
- 17 (3) The vice director of civil defense;
- 18 (4) The chairperson of the agribusiness development  
19 corporation board of directors;
- 20 (5) The dean and director of the college of tropical  
21 agriculture and human resources; and
- 22 (6) The chairperson of the board of agriculture.



1 (e) The chairperson of the task force shall invite  
2 representatives from the following stakeholders to participate  
3 as members:

- 4 (1) The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation;
  - 5 (2) The Hawaii Farmers Union United board of directors;
  - 6 (3) The United States military;
  - 7 (4) The Hawaii Organic Farming Association;
  - 8 (5) The Hawaii Longline Association;
  - 9 (6) The Taro Security and Purity Task Force;
  - 10 (7) Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association;
  - 11 (8) Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; and
  - 12 (9) Other interested parties, as determined by the  
13 chairperson.
- 14 (f) The task force shall:
- 15 (1) Identify public and private lands that could be  
16 cultivated for immediate emergency farming;
  - 17 (2) Identify irrigation equipment and infrastructure needs  
18 for large scale farming;
  - 19 (3) Identify the best crops to grow in terms of nutrition  
20 and harvest cycle;
  - 21 (4) Identify current agriculture operations or companies  
22 that could assist the State in growing the best crops;



- 1 (5) Examine the feasibility of creating public orchards on  
2 government land or planting five thousand fruit trees  
3 in state and city parks within the next five years;
- 4 (6) Examine the feasibility of using commercial fishermen  
5 to provide food from the sea;
- 6 (7) Develop a plan to distribute information and resources  
7 for individual home gardens, including emergency seed  
8 packets;
- 9 (8) Consider deer, boar, and wild goat populations as  
10 sources of food for any plan;
- 11 (9) Develop a food distribution and conservation plan  
12 involving existing retail and wholesale food stores  
13 and other food bank operations;
- 14 (10) Identify vulnerable populations during a food crisis;
- 15 (11) Develop an emergency food drop program that identifies  
16 other countries, government agencies, businesses,  
17 nonprofits, and others who may participate in  
18 emergency food drop efforts; and
- 19 (12) Develop a security plan to monitor and protect farms  
20 and other food growing areas.



1 (g) The task force shall submit reports of its findings  
2 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
3 legislature as follows:

4 (1) An interim report no later than twenty days prior to  
5 the convening of the regular session of 2014; and

6 (2) A final report to the legislature no later than twenty  
7 days prior to the convening of the regular session of  
8 2015.

9 (h) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2015.

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

11



**Report Title:**

Food Security Task Force

**Description:**

Establishes a temporary food security task force at the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of Hawaii to develop an emergency food plan that addresses certain food security issues resulting from an emergency, catastrophic event, or quarantine. (SD1)

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