
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUACULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that most of the fish
2 consumed in the United States is imported. Of all products
3 imported in the country, the value of imported seafood is second
4 only to petroleum. As supplies of fish stock continue to be
5 depleted, aquaculture represents an alternative means to meet
6 the demand for fish products.

7 The legislature further finds that land-based aquaculture
8 farming, as distinguished from ocean-based aquaculture farming,
9 is a growing industry in Hawaii. Land-based aquaculture
10 includes aquacultural activities in controlled environments such
11 as ponds, tanks, and aquaponics structures.

12 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
13 agriculture to regulate land-based aquaculture farming on lands
14 exceeding three acres in area and classified as agricultural.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:



1 "§141- Aquaculture farming. (a) Notwithstanding
2 chapter 180 or any other law to the contrary, the department of
3 agriculture shall regulate land-based aquaculture farming on
4 land that:

- 5 (1) Exceeds three acres in area; and
- 6 (2) Is placed within an agricultural district pursuant to
- 7 section 205-2.

8 (b) Before December 31, 2014, the department of
9 agriculture shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to
10 implement this section.

11 (c) For the purposes of this section:

12 "Land-based aquaculture" means all aquaculture activities,
13 as defined in section 219-2, when carried out on land by a
14 qualified aquaculturist. The term shall not include ocean-based
15 aquaculture.

16 "Qualified aquaculturist" shall have the same meaning as
17 defined in section 219-2."

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 1471

Report Title:

DOA; Aquaculture; Regulation; Rules

Description:

Requires DOA to adopt rules for regulating land-based aquaculture farming on lands exceeding three acres in area and classified as agricultural. Effective 07/01/2013.

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