
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Hawaii's farms and farmers reflect the heritage
2 and diversity of many cultures and people. They are the
3 cornerstones of the State's goals for food security,
4 sustainability, and self-sufficiency and are essential for
5 producing local food for local consumption.

6 The number of small farms in Hawaii has grown substantially
7 during the last ten years, reflecting a changing agricultural
8 model from plantations to smaller farms with diverse cropping
9 and marketing systems that create new local food sources and
10 significantly increased employment. There is also a renewed
11 interest in school gardens that allow children to eat and enjoy
12 the food they grow, contribute to their school cafeteria system,
13 and learn economic, science, and cultural lessons through an
14 agriculture-based curriculum.

15 These trends necessitate the development of Hawaii good
16 agricultural practices comprising science-based standards to
17 reduce the potential for food product contamination on farms.
18 These guidelines will provide support for good farm practices



1 regarding field management, proper hygiene, water quality for
2 irrigation and produce rinse, use of agricultural chemicals, and
3 use of animal manure.

4 At the national level, the Food Safety Modernization Act of
5 2011 authorizes the federal Food and Drug Administration to
6 develop contaminant-specific controls and science-based
7 standards for preventing food borne illnesses and encourages
8 states to establish similar intrastate criteria for the safe
9 production, distribution, and consumer handling of food.

10 The Hawaii state constitution mandates the preservation and
11 protection of agricultural resources. However, the department
12 of agriculture's current use of third party food safety
13 certification audit systems is costly and impractical for many
14 of Hawaii's farmers. The current food safety certification
15 procedure has reduced farmers' access to local markets, thereby
16 reducing local consumers' access to local produce and possibly
17 discouraging the development of farms that could create food
18 sustainability for the State. It also prevents children from
19 having reasonable access to school gardens and undermines
20 government programs that encourage food self-sufficiency and
21 economic development.



1 The purpose of this Act is to establish a Hawaii good
2 agricultural practices program for farms growing local
3 agricultural food products.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 147, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
6 and to read as follows:

7 "§147- Hawaii good agricultural practices program. (a)

8 There is established the Hawaii good agricultural practices
9 program to be administered by the department of agriculture.
10 The purpose of the program is to develop and support good
11 agricultural practices for Hawaii farms growing agricultural
12 food products.

13 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,
14 the Hawaii good agricultural practices program shall:

15 (1) Develop good agricultural practices consisting of
16 contaminant-specific controls and science-based
17 standards that reasonably reduce the potential for on-
18 farm food borne illness transmission and include
19 specific considerations and methodologies for farm
20 sizes, practices, techniques, materials, and crops;



1 (2) Develop and implement programs to educate and train
2 Hawaii farmers to implement good agricultural
3 practices in a cost-effective and efficient manner;

4 (3) Provide procedures for voluntary verification of on-
5 farm implementation of good agricultural practices and
6 subsequent issuance of state compliance certification;
7 and

8 (4) Develop a consumer information program for publication
9 and broadcast to teach good home practices for the
10 treatment and handling of fresh and processed
11 agricultural food products.

12 (c) The department shall consult as necessary with the
13 department of health, the University of Hawaii college of
14 tropical agriculture and human resources, and other state and
15 federal agencies to develop and implement the Hawaii good
16 agricultural practices program.

17 (d) The department may adopt rules under chapter 91 to
18 facilitate the implementation of this section."

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



1 2014-2015 for the implementation of the Hawaii good agricultural
2 practices program.


3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
4 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

7

INTRODUCED BY:


Jahashi Omura
Nene E. Loo
Brid Kofani

JAN 18 2013



H.B. NO. 322

Report Title:

DOA; Hawaii Good Agricultural Practices Program; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Hawaii good agricultural practices program.
Makes an appropriation. Effective July 1, 2013.

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

