A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

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

1   SECTION 1. In an October 2012 report titled "Increased

2 Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy," the office of

3 planning and the department of business, economic development,

4 and tourism recommended that food security and food self-

5 sufficiency become a priority for the State's economic and

6 agricultural policies. The legislature finds that eighty-five

7 to ninety per cent of Hawaii's food is imported. Ninety per

8 cent of the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh vegetables,

9 sixty-five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty per cent of

10 all milk purchased in the State are imported. If a natural

11 disaster prevents the importation of food, there would only be a

12 ten day supply of food on the islands.

13   The legislature finds that each food product imported to

14 Hawaii is a lost opportunity for local economic growth.

15 Replacing ten per cent of current food imports will create a

16 total of two thousand three hundred jobs and keep hundreds of

17 millions of dollars within the State's economy.

1   Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to promote food

2 self-sufficiency by appropriating moneys to the department of

3 agriculture to monitor local food production, in accordance with

4 the department's statutory duty to increase agricultural self-

5 sufficiency, and directing the department of agriculture to

6 issue a request for proposals for the establishment of a food

7 sufficiency baseline.

8   SECTION 2. For purposes of this Act, "food" means all

9 edible agriculture products intended for human consumption;

10 provided that food shall not include:

11   (1) Feed consumed by animals other than pets;

12   (2) Live animals unless they are intended to be placed on

13   the market for human consumption;

14   (3) Plants prior to harvesting; and

15   (4) Crops used for bio-engineering, testing, or research.

16   SECTION 3. The department of agriculture shall establish

17 full-time equivalent (FTE) local food production monitor

18 positions to monitor local food production in accordance with

19 the department's statutory duty to administer a program of

20 agricultural planning and development that includes actions to

21 increase agricultural self-sufficiency.

HB502 HD1 HMS 2013-1678

1   SECTION 4. Pursuant to chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised

2   Statutes, the department of agriculture shall issue a request

3   for proposals to contract for a report with findings on the

4   establishment of a food sufficiency baseline that determines the

5   percentage of food that currently is consumed and produced in

6   the State. This baseline is intended to enable the State to set

7   goals and move towards greater food self-sufficiency.

8   The entity awarded the contract, in conjunction with the

9   department of agriculture, shall submit the report of its

10 findings to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to

11 the convening of the regular session of 2015.

12   SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general

13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much

14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the

15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year

16 2014-2015 to establish positions within the department of

17 agriculture to monitor local food production.

18   The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department

19 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

20   SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:
Department of Agriculture; Food; Request for Proposals

Description:
Appropriates moneys to the DOA to create positions within the department to monitor local food production. Requires the issuance of an RFP for the establishment of a food sufficiency baseline that determines the percentage of food locally produced and consumed. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB502 HD1)

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