
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SUSTAINABILITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is extremely
2 important to support food sustainability and self-sufficiency.
3 House Concurrent Resolution No. 167, Session Laws of Hawaii
4 2011, requested the department of agriculture to convene a
5 working group to examine the Federal 2008 Farm Bill amendment to
6 The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The working
7 group submitted its report to the 2012 legislature, which
8 recommends that strong consideration should be directed to amend
9 the state planning act with the intent to codify a buy local
10 policy.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to amend the state
12 planning act to codify a buy local policy in order to promote
13 food sustainability and self-sufficiency.

14 SECTION 2. Section 226-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

16 "(b) To achieve the agriculture objectives, it shall be
17 the policy of this State to:



- 1 (1) Establish a clear direction for Hawaii's agriculture
2 through stakeholder commitment and advocacy.
- 3 (2) Encourage agriculture by making best use of natural
4 resources.
- 5 (3) Provide the governor and the legislature with
6 information and options needed for prudent decision
7 making for the development of agriculture.
- 8 (4) Establish strong relationships between the
9 agricultural and visitor industries for mutual
10 marketing benefits.
- 11 (5) Foster increased public awareness and understanding of
12 the contributions and benefits of agriculture as a
13 major sector of Hawaii's economy.
- 14 (6) Seek the enactment and retention of federal and state
15 legislation that benefits Hawaii's agricultural
16 industries.
- 17 (7) Strengthen diversified agriculture by developing an
18 effective promotion, marketing, and distribution
19 system between Hawaii's producers and ~~[consumer~~
20 ~~markets locally, on the continental United States,]~~
21 consumers in the state, nationally, and
22 internationally.



- 1 (8) Support research and development activities that
2 strengthen economic productivity in agriculture,
3 stimulate greater efficiency, and enhance the
4 development of new products and agricultural by-
5 products.
- 6 (9) Enhance agricultural growth by providing public
7 incentives and encouraging private initiatives.
- 8 (10) Assure the availability of agriculturally suitable
9 lands with adequate water to accommodate present and
10 future needs.
- 11 (11) Increase the attractiveness and opportunities for an
12 agricultural education and livelihood.
- 13 (12) Expand Hawaii's agricultural base by promoting growth
14 and development of flowers, tropical fruits and
15 plants, livestock, feed grains, forestry, food crops,
16 aquaculture, and other potential enterprises.
- 17 (13) Promote economically competitive activities that
18 increase Hawaii's agricultural self-sufficiency[?] including the increased purchase of Hawaii-grown foods
19 by residents and institutions such as public schools,
20 prisons, hospitals, and the military.
21



- 1 (14) Promote and assist in the establishment of sound
- 2 financial programs for diversified agriculture.
- 3 (15) Institute and support programs and activities to
- 4 assist the entry of displaced agricultural workers
- 5 into alternative agricultural or other employment.
- 6 (16) Facilitate the transition of agricultural lands in
- 7 economically nonfeasible agricultural production to
- 8 economically viable agricultural uses."

9 SECTION 3. Section 226-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

11 "(d) Priority guidelines to promote the growth and
12 development of diversified agriculture and aquaculture:

- 13 (1) Identify, conserve, and protect agricultural and
- 14 aquacultural lands of importance and initiate
- 15 affirmative and comprehensive programs to promote
- 16 economically productive agricultural and aquacultural
- 17 uses of such lands.
- 18 (2) Assist in providing adequate, reasonably priced water
- 19 for agricultural activities.
- 20 (3) Encourage public and private investment to increase
- 21 water supply and to improve transmission, storage, and



- 1 irrigation facilities in support of diversified
2 agriculture and aquaculture.
- 3 (4) Assist in the formation and operation of production
4 and marketing associations and cooperatives to reduce
5 production and marketing costs.
- 6 (5) Encourage and assist with the development of a
7 waterborne and airborne freight and cargo system
8 capable of meeting the needs of Hawaii's agricultural
9 community.
- 10 (6) Seek favorable freight rates for Hawaii's agricultural
11 products from interisland and overseas transportation
12 operators.
- 13 (7) Encourage the development and expansion of
14 agricultural and aquacultural activities which offer
15 long-term economic growth potential and employment
16 opportunities.
- 17 (8) Continue the development of agricultural parks and
18 other programs to assist small independent farmers in
19 securing agricultural lands and loans.
- 20 (9) Require agricultural uses in agricultural subdivisions
21 and closely monitor the uses in these subdivisions.



1 (10) Support the continuation of land currently in use for
2 diversified agriculture.

3 (11) Encourage residents and visitors alike to support
4 Hawaii's farmers by purchasing locally-grown
5 products."

6 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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H.B. NO. 507

Report Title:

Food sustainability; Locally-grown products

Description:

Amends the State Planning Act to encourage purchases of Hawaii-grown foods by individuals and institutions, including public institutions.

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