

JAN 17 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that agriculture is more
2 than just growing food for Hawaii's residents; it is also about
3 sustaining agriculture as an industry in our economy. About
4 forty to sixty per cent of national income is produced in
5 agriculture, and fifty to eighty per cent of the labor force is
6 engaged in agricultural production. Although large quantities
7 of resources - chiefly land and labor - are committed to
8 agriculture, however, they are being used at very low levels of
9 productivity.

10 To maximize agriculture production, the legislature finds
11 that Hawaii must create a coordinated plan to provide research,
12 educational opportunities, services, and resources to assist new
13 and existing agricultural businesses to thrive and grow.

14 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create new economic
15 opportunities and to sustain and enhance Hawaii's diversified
16 agriculture industry through agribusiness development. The
17 program established pursuant to this Act will identify emerging
18 and promising crops, secure needed resources and technologies to



1 sustain ongoing development of new agricultural industries, and
2 establish an educational program to prepare and produce
3 successful agricultural entrepreneurs and a knowledgeable
4 workforce.

5 SECTION 2. (a) The agribusiness development corporation
6 and the University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and
7 human resources shall design a program to achieve the following
8 purposes:

- 9 (1) Identify emerging crops, including food, ornamentals,
10 and dairy, that can be grown on lands owned by the
11 agribusiness development corporation;
- 12 (2) Identify the resources needed to sustain identified
13 emerging crops, including:
- 14 (A) Necessary acreage to sustain packaging and
15 processing operations and other facilities;
- 16 (B) The number of growers required; and
17 (C) The number of producers required; and
- 18 (3) Design and establish a program to prepare and inspire
19 an agricultural workforce with the proper skillset and
20 motivation to become successful growers and producers.

21 (b) The agribusiness development corporation and the
22 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human



1 resources shall submit a report of their findings, including a
2 summary of their data and program, to the legislature no later
3 than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2015 regular
4 session.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

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S.B. NO. 2400

Report Title:

Agribusiness Development Corporation; College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

Description:

Requires the Agribusiness Development Corporation and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to design a program that creates new farmers by identifying emerging crops and productive uses for lands managed by the Agribusiness Development Corporation and designing a program to prepare a workforce to cultivate these lands.

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