
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. To maximize agricultural production, the
2 legislature finds that Hawaii must create a coordinated plan to
3 provide research, educational opportunities, services, and
4 resources to assist new and existing agricultural businesses to
5 thrive and grow. Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to
6 reduce imported foods and satisfy the goals of the *Increased*
7 *Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy*, adopted by the
8 office of planning and implemented by the department of
9 agriculture, and to enhance Hawaii's diversified agricultural
10 industry. The program established pursuant to this Act will
11 identify food and emerging crops, identify resources and
12 technologies to sustain food crops and new agricultural
13 industries, and establish an educational program to prepare and
14 produce successful agricultural entrepreneurs and a
15 knowledgeable workforce.

16 SECTION 2. (a) The agribusiness development corporation
17 and University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and
18 human resources shall:



- 1 (1) Identify food and emerging crops that can be grown on
2 lands owned by the agribusiness development
3 corporation;
- 4 (2) Identify the resources needed to sustain identified
5 emerging and food crops, including:
- 6 (A) Necessary acreage to sustain packaging and
7 processing operations and other facilities;
- 8 (B) The number of growers required; and
9 (C) The number of producers required; and
- 10 (3) Design and establish a program to prepare and inspire
11 an agricultural workforce with the proper skillset and
12 motivation to become successful growers and producers.
- 13 (b) The agribusiness development corporation and
14 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human
15 resources shall submit a report of their findings, including a
16 summary of their data and program, to the legislature no later
17 than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2015 regular
18 session.
- 19 SECTION 3. The agribusiness development corporation and
20 the department of agriculture shall develop a coordinated
21 strategy:



1 (1) To lease state agricultural lands in a manner that
2 will provide opportunities for food and emerging crops
3 to maximize production in a cost-efficient manner; and

4 (2) For the use of state lands, facilities, and
5 infrastructure to support food and emerging crops and
6 to maximize agricultural development.

7 SECTION 4. The agribusiness development corporation,
8 department of agriculture, and University of Hawaii college of
9 tropical agriculture and human resources shall coordinate and
10 provide technical support to farmers to:

11 (1) Identify food and emerging crops that are particularly
12 suited to a particular area, to optimize diversified
13 agricultural production on state lands; and

14 (2) Support and cultivate successful agricultural
15 businesses.

16 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon approval.



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 identifies emerging crops and productive uses for lands managed by the Agribusiness Development Corporation and helps prepare a workforce to cultivate these lands. Requires the Agribusiness Development Corporation and the Department of Agriculture to develop a coordinated land management strategy to promote diversified agriculture, support emerging and specialty crops, and maximize agricultural development. Requires the Agribusiness Development Corporation, the Department of Agriculture, and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to coordinate and provide technical support to farmers to identify emerging and promising crops and support and cultivate successful agricultural businesses. (HD1)

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