

---

---

# 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. Although  
4 large quantities of resources - chiefly land and labor - are  
5 committed to agriculture, however, they are being used at very  
6 low levels of productivity.

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

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create new economic  
12 opportunities and to sustain and enhance Hawaii's diversified  
13 agriculture industry through agribusiness development. The  
14 program established pursuant to this Act will identify emerging  
15 and promising crops, identify needed resources and technologies  
16 to sustain ongoing development of new agricultural industries,  
17 and establish an educational program to prepare and produce



1 successful agricultural entrepreneurs and a knowledgeable  
2 workforce.

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

7 (1) Identify emerging crops, including food, ornamentals,  
8 and dairy, that can be grown on lands owned by the  
9 agribusiness development corporation;

10 (2) Identify the resources needed to sustain identified  
11 emerging crops, including:

12 (A) Necessary acreage to sustain packaging and  
13 processing operations and other facilities;

14 (B) The number of growers required; and

15 (C) The number of producers required; and

16 (3) Design and establish a program to prepare and inspire  
17 an agricultural workforce with the proper skillset and  
18 motivation to become successful growers and producers.

19 (b) The agribusiness development corporation and  
20 University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
21 resources shall submit a report of their findings, including a  
22 summary of their data and program, to the legislature no later



1 than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2015 regular  
2 session.

3 SECTION 3. The agribusiness development corporation and  
4 the department of agriculture shall develop a coordinated  
5 strategy:

6 (1) To lease state agricultural lands in a manner that  
7 will provide opportunities for new, small, mid-size,  
8 and large farms to maximize production in a cost-  
9 efficient manner; and

10 (2) For the use of state lands, facilities, and  
11 infrastructure to support emerging and specialty  
12 crops, and maximize agricultural development.

13 SECTION 4. The agribusiness development corporation,  
14 department of agriculture, and University of Hawaii college of  
15 tropical agriculture and human resources shall coordinate and  
16 provide technical support to farmers to:

17 (1) Identify emerging and promising crops, including  
18 specialty crops particularly suited to a particular  
19 area to optimize diversified agricultural production  
20 on state lands; and

21 (2) Support and cultivate successful agricultural  
22 businesses.



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



**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. 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. (SD1)

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

