
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL LOAN REVOLVING FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is the most
2 geographically isolated state in the country and is dangerously
3 dependent on imported food, placing residents at risk of food
4 shortages in event of transportation disruptions, natural
5 disasters at out of state production sites, and other external
6 factors beyond the State's control. High levels of food
7 importation result in lost job opportunities for local residents
8 and exports dollars out of the State.

9 Expansion of local food production is vital to protect
10 Hawaii's citizens. The 2014 Aloha+ Challenge resolution was
11 adopted by the legislature, the governor, the mayors of each
12 county, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs identifying six
13 targets that the State would commit to reaching by 2030, one of
14 which is doubling local food production. In order for the local
15 agricultural industry to develop, expand, and thrive, access to
16 affordable capital will be essential. The legislature finds
17 that the state agricultural loan programs provide affordable



1 capital for new farmers to start their operations or expand
2 existing operations.

3 The purpose of this Act is to provide additional funding to
4 the state agricultural loan program in order to meet the demand
5 of a growing agricultural sector. Increased funding will allow
6 for additional farming operations due to the recent purchase of
7 the Galbraith lands and other state projects statewide. With
8 additional resources, the State will be able to continue its
9 growth of import replacements and food sustainability.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to be paid
13 into the agricultural loan revolving fund created in section
14 155-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The sum appropriated by this
15 Act shall be expended by the department of agriculture for the
16 purposes of the fund.

17 SECTION 3. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect
18 on July 1, 2016.



Report Title:

Agricultural Loan Revolving Fund

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Agricultural Loan Revolving Fund to support the State's food sustainability goals. (HB2274 HD1)

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