

JAN 28 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY.

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

PART I

1
2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is
3 dangerously dependent on imported food. As the most
4 geographically isolated state in the country, Hawaii imports
5 approximately ninety-two per cent of its food, according to the
6 Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program.
7 Currently, Hawaii has an inventory of fresh produce that would
8 supply consumers for no more than ten days. Ninety per cent of
9 the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh vegetables, sixty-
10 five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty per cent of all
11 milk purchased in the State are imported. The legislature also
12 finds that Hawaii's reliance on out-of-state sources of food
13 places residents directly at risk of food shortages in the event
14 of natural disasters, economic disruption, and other external
15 factors beyond the State's control.

16 The legislature further finds that each food product
17 imported to Hawaii is a lost opportunity for local economic



1 growth. The legislature notes that according to the University
2 of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources,
3 an increase in the production and sale of Hawaii-grown food
4 would contribute to significant job creation. The research
5 shows that replacing ten per cent of current food imports with
6 locally grown food will create a total of two thousand three
7 hundred jobs. Increasing the amount of locally grown food by as
8 little as ten per cent could keep hundreds of millions of
9 dollars circulating within Hawaii's economy, stimulate growth,
10 and create thousands of new jobs. Such diversification would
11 help make Hawaii's economy more resilient to worldwide events.

12 The legislature further finds that increasing local
13 production will ensure that Hawaii has food sources that will be
14 more stable when faced with global supply disruptions,
15 increasing global demand and shortages of commodities, and
16 potential global food scarcities.

17 The legislature notes that the nutrients in fresh fruits
18 and vegetables degrade rapidly and increased availability of
19 local food typically ensures access to fresher, later-picked
20 produce with greater vitamin content and higher nutritional
21 value. A more robust local agricultural sector will lead to



1 more consistency and an increase in nutritional choices for
2 local residents. The legislature believes communities will
3 thrive by having a steady, affordable stream of local products
4 that act as staple foods to residents and by having their food
5 dollars reinvested in the local economy.

6 In summary, the legislature finds that establishing an
7 increase in the production of local food as a key state priority
8 will lead to the diversification of Hawaii's economy, create new
9 jobs, advance Hawaii's long-term economic stability, and boost
10 the food security of the people of Hawaii. This Act sets out a
11 specific roadmap to implement the recommendations made by the
12 Hawaii economic development task force created pursuant to Act
13 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010; the Hawaii clean energy
14 initiative; the office of planning's strategy on increased food
15 security and food self-sufficiency published in October of 2012;
16 and the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan.

17 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 18 (1) Establish a formal statewide food resiliency
19 initiative that is recognized and supported by the
20 legislature and will achieve measurable goals of food
21 self-sufficiency in a reasonable timeframe;



1 §141- Hawaii food resiliency initiative. (a) There is
2 established within the department a Hawaii food resiliency
3 initiative to increase the State's food security and food self-
4 sufficiency. The food resiliency initiative shall design,
5 implement, and administer activities to:

- 6 (1) Increase agricultural sustainability and improve the
7 economic viability of the State's agricultural
8 industry, including development of data to measure
9 progress;
- 10 (2) Develop and implement programs to assist farm,
11 nursery, and livestock production;
- 12 (3) Coordinate, fund, and establish agricultural-industry
13 development programs;
- 14 (4) Develop a cross-agency electronic agricultural data
15 system with soil, water, climate, economic, and other
16 relevant data that can be used to make informed
17 agriculture-related decisions and is supported and
18 maintained with sustainable funds;
- 19 (5) Establish Hawaii as a global leader in agriculture and
20 agricultural technologies and a model of food self-
21 sufficiency;



- 1 (6) Develop and implement concepts and programs to expand
- 2 the market share of local-grown agriculture;
- 3 (7) Market and promote buying locally grown foods and
- 4 other local agricultural products;
- 5 (8) Support and assist in increasing the procurement of
- 6 local commodities by government agencies;
- 7 (9) Develop and implement research and technology transfer
- 8 programs for varieties, treatment, pest control,
- 9 diagnostics, and farm inputs;
- 10 (10) Support and coordinate with other appropriate programs
- 11 within the department, such as infrastructure
- 12 development, biosecurity, and food safety;
- 13 (11) Ensure the product integrity of agricultural
- 14 commodities branded as "made in Hawaii" to protect
- 15 Hawaii's identity as a producer;
- 16 (12) Review, coordinate, update, oversee, and comment on
- 17 government policies that affect the State's
- 18 agriculture and food security;
- 19 (13) Develop a plan, to be implemented from 2017 to 2030,
- 20 to transition the State to a food-resilient economy;
- 21 and



1 (14) Develop a plan, to be implemented from 2017 to 2030,
2 to assist each county in transitioning to a food-
3 resilient economy.

4 (b) Prior to the initiation of any activities authorized
5 under subsection (a), the Hawaii food resiliency task force,
6 pursuant to part III of Act , Session Laws of Hawaii 2015,
7 shall develop a plan of action with the intent of promoting
8 effective prioritization and focusing of efforts consistent with
9 the Hawaii food resiliency initiative.

10 (c) The department shall submit a report to the
11 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
12 each regular session beginning with the regular session of 2018
13 on the status and progress of the Hawaii food resiliency
14 initiative that shall include progress toward the initiative's
15 benchmarks and goals. The report shall also include:

- 16 (1) The spending plan of the Hawaii food resiliency
17 initiative;
- 18 (2) All expenditures of the agricultural development and
19 food security special fund moneys; and
- 20 (3) The targeted markets of the expenditures, including
21 reasons for selecting those markets, the persons to be



1 served, specific objectives of the program, and
2 program expenditures, including measurable outcomes."

3 PART III

4 HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY TASK FORCE

5 SECTION 4. (a) There is established the Hawaii food
6 resiliency task force within the department of agriculture for
7 administrative purposes. The purpose of the Hawaii food
8 resiliency task force shall be to facilitate the accelerated
9 adoption and completion of measurable benchmarks based upon
10 quantifiable metrics regarding agricultural infrastructure,
11 development, food resiliency outreach and education, and other
12 measures to meet the purposes of this Act. The Hawaii food
13 resiliency task force shall apply an interdisciplinary approach
14 to ensure that the Hawaii food resiliency initiative integrates
15 and considers already existing programs, research, and
16 achievements in ensuring a feasible, coordinated, and aggressive
17 effort in improving food resiliency. The task force shall
18 consider economic, social, environmental, and cultural goals in
19 developing measurable benchmarks for the initiative.

20 (b) The Hawaii food resiliency task force shall consist of
21 the following members:



- 1 (1) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the
2 chairperson's designee, who shall chair the Hawaii
3 food resiliency task force;
- 4 (2) The director of the office of planning or the
5 director's designee;
- 6 (3) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
7 resources or the chairperson's designee;
- 8 (4) The dean of the University of Hawaii college of
9 tropical agriculture and human resources or the dean's
10 designee;
- 11 (5) A member to be designated by the speaker of the house
12 of representatives;
- 13 (6) A member to be designated by the president of the
14 senate; and
- 15 (7) A representative from each county's private economic
16 development board to be designated by the mayor of the
17 respective county.
- 18 (c) The Hawaii food resiliency task force's members shall
19 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,
20 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
21 their duties.



1 (d) In the performance of its duties, the Hawaii food
2 resiliency task force shall consult with appropriate private,
3 nonprofit, community, and government stakeholders.

4 (e) The department of agriculture may contract for any
5 services to support the work of the Hawaii food resiliency task
6 force.

7 (f) The Hawaii food resiliency task force shall submit a
8 plan setting forth the specific, measurable benchmarks for the
9 Hawaii food resiliency initiative to achieve, and a timeline in
10 which to achieve those benchmarks, to the legislature no later
11 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
12 of 2018. The plan shall include a report of the methodology the
13 task force used to develop the specific benchmarks and goals
14 within the plan and recommendations on how to facilitate the
15 plan.

16 The task force shall also submit a follow-up report to the
17 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
18 the regular session of 2018.

19 (g) The Hawaii food resiliency task force shall cease to
20 exist on June 30, 2018.



1 PART IV

2 SECTION 5. The purpose of this part is to provide adequate
3 resources and funding to support the Hawaii food resiliency
4 initiative, including agricultural infrastructure and
5 development to improve food self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

6 SECTION 6. Section 141-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

8 "(c) Subject to legislative appropriation, moneys in the
9 special fund may be expended for the following purposes:

- 10 (1) The awarding of grants to farmers for agricultural
11 production or processing activity;
- 12 (2) The acquisition of real property for agricultural
13 production or processing activity;
- 14 (3) The improvement of real property, dams, reservoirs,
15 irrigation systems, and transportation networks
16 necessary to promote agricultural production or
17 processing activity, including investigative studies
18 to identify and assess necessary improvements to dams,
19 reservoirs, irrigation systems, and transportation
20 networks;



- 1 (4) The purchase of equipment necessary for agricultural
- 2 production or processing activity;
- 3 (5) The conduct of research on and testing of agricultural
- 4 products and markets;
- 5 (6) The funding of positions, including agricultural
- 6 inspector positions, within the department of
- 7 agriculture;
- 8 (7) The promotion and marketing of agricultural products
- 9 grown or raised in the State;
- 10 (8) [~~Water quality~~] Water-quality testing and improvement;
- 11 and
- 12 (9) Any other activity intended to increase agricultural
- 13 production or processing that may lead to reduced
- 14 importation of food, fodder, or feed from outside the
- 15 State."

16 SECTION 7. Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, as amended
17 by Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, section 3, is amended
18 by amending section 14 to read as follows:

19 "SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010;
20 provided that sections 2, 3, and 4 [~~, and 7~~] of this Act shall be
21 repealed on June 30, 2030, and sections 128D-2, 201-12.8, and

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1 243-3.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in the form
2 in which they read on June 30, 2010."

3 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2016-2017 for the Hawaii food resiliency task force to
8 administer the Hawaii food resiliency initiative, pursuant to
9 this Act.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
11 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

12 PART V

13 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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S.B. NO. 1008

Report Title:

Hawaii Food Resiliency Initiative; Hawaii Food Resiliency Task Force; Department of Agriculture; Appropriation

Description:

Develops the Hawaii Food Resiliency Initiative. Establishes the Hawaii Food Resiliency Task Force. Appropriates funds.

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