
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. Hawaii is located approximately 2,506 miles
2 from the continental United States. As the most geographically
3 isolated state in the country, Hawaii imports approximately
4 ninety-two per cent of its food, according to the Pacific
5 Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program.
6 Currently, Hawaii has an inventory of fresh produce that would
7 supply consumers for no more than ten days. Ninety per cent of
8 the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh vegetables, sixty-
9 five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty per cent of all
10 milk purchased in the State are imported. Hawaii's reliance on
11 out-of-state sources of food places residents directly at risk
12 of food shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic
13 disruption, and other external factors beyond the State's
14 control.

15 Each food product imported to Hawaii is a lost opportunity
16 for local economic growth. According to the University of
17 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources, an



1 increase in the production and sale of Hawaii-grown food would
2 contribute to significant job creation. Research shows that
3 replacing ten per cent of current food imports with locally
4 grown food will create a total of two thousand three hundred
5 jobs. Increasing the amount of locally grown food by as little
6 as ten per cent could keep hundreds of millions of dollars
7 circulating within Hawaii's economy, stimulate growth, and
8 create thousands of new jobs. Such diversification would help
9 make Hawaii's economy more resilient to worldwide events.
10 Increasing local production will ensure that Hawaii has food
11 sources that will be more stable when faced with global supply
12 disruptions, increasing global demand and shortages of
13 commodities, and potential global food scarcities.

14 The office of planning, in cooperation with the department
15 of agriculture, issued a report in October 2012, entitled
16 "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy: A
17 State Strategic/Functional Plan Prepared in Accordance with HRS
18 Chapter 226 Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii Comprehensive
19 Economic Development Strategy". The executive summary of the
20 report states in pertinent part, "The purpose of the *Increased*
21 *Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy (Strategy)* is



1 to increase the amount of locally grown food consumed by Hawaii
2 residents. This will increase food self-sufficiency which is a
3 component of food security. The Strategy is a living document
4 intended as a first step toward continued dialog and
5 implementation".

6 The legislature passed S.C.R. No. 69, S.D. 1, regular
7 session of 2014, which was a significant step toward food
8 security and self-resiliency, establishing the Aloha+ Challenge,
9 a statewide sustainability commitment led by the legislature,
10 governor, county mayors, office of Hawaiian affairs, and public-
11 private partners across the State. The resolution outlines six
12 ambitious goals to achieve environmental, social, and economic
13 priorities by 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food
14 production, natural resources protection, solid waste disposal,
15 smart sustainable communities, and green workforce and
16 education. This resolution specifies that local food production
17 is to double by 2030 with a goal of twenty to thirty per cent of
18 food being grown locally.

19 In addition, the three strategic objectives of the
20 increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy are
21 increasing demand for and access to locally grown foods,



1 increasing production of locally grown foods, and providing
2 policy and organizational support to meet food self-sufficiency
3 needs.

4 The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide
5 agricultural development and food resiliency strategy and goals,
6 in line with the recommendations of the increased food security
7 and food self-sufficiency strategy.

8 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall
9 establish a strategy and identify goals for increased food
10 security and self-sufficiency in Hawaii.

11 (b) Through the strategy, the department shall identify
12 goals to achieve the following:

13 (1) Increasing demand for and access to locally grown
14 foods by:

15 (A) Expanding local marketing campaigns to promote
16 the benefits of buying local foods;

17 (B) Expanding and improving branding and labeling
18 programs and providing consumer education
19 programs to help consumers identify local
20 products at the time of purchase;



- 1 (C) Encouraging public institutions, including
- 2 schools, to purchase locally grown foods; and
- 3 (D) Addressing food safety issues by expanding the
- 4 farm food safety coaching program and the number
- 5 of farm food safety certifiers; and
- 6 (2) Increasing production of locally grown foods, rather
- 7 than mainland- or foreign-grown products, by:
- 8 (A) Improving agricultural infrastructure, including
- 9 agricultural parks, irrigation systems, and
- 10 distribution systems and facilities;
- 11 (B) Supporting the agricultural park program, which
- 12 provides public lands at reasonable cost and
- 13 long-term tenure to farmers, and completing the
- 14 transfer of agricultural lands from the
- 15 department of land and natural resources to the
- 16 department of agriculture;
- 17 (C) Supporting capital improvement project funding to
- 18 repair and maintain state irrigation systems,
- 19 which provide water at low cost to farmers;
- 20 (D) Encouraging a variety of distribution systems to
- 21 move goods to the market place;



1 (E) Supporting multi-functional food hub facilities
2 or food incubator facilities to handle
3 aggregation, processing, treatment, and
4 distribution; and

5 (F) Building the agricultural workforce, including
6 workforce development services for the
7 agricultural, energy, natural resources, and
8 related industries.

9 (c) The department of agriculture shall identify goals
10 that are quantitatively and qualitatively measurable and the
11 metrics to determine progress toward the goals.

12 (d) The department of agriculture shall submit a report of
13 its findings and recommendations, including proposed strategies,
14 goals, and metrics, to the legislature no later than twenty days
15 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2018 for the
16 purposes of codifying into law the statewide agricultural
17 development and food resiliency strategy and goals.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
21 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal



1 year 2018-2019 for the department of agriculture to produce
2 product promotional materials along with other endeavors, such
3 as in-store promotions.

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

6 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
9 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
10 2018-2019 for the department of agriculture to expand and
11 improve branding and labeling programs for locally grown foods.

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

14 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
17 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
18 2018-2019 for publicity to promote farmers' markets.

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



1 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2018-2019 for a farm to school pilot program in charter schools
6 of the State.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of education for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2018-2019 to develop good agricultural practices for school
14 gardens.

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

17 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
20 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



1 2018-2019 for the establishment of specialist positions to
2 certify farm food safety.

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

5 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
9 2018-2019 to develop regional agriculture infrastructure master
10 plans.

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

13 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
16 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
17 2018-2019 to restore positions in food inspection, pest control,
18 and biosecurity.

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



1 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2018-2019 to restore positions in market research and
6 agricultural statistics.

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

9 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2018-2019 to provide funding for research, training, and
14 education regarding agricultural food development and food
15 security.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
17 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on July 31, 2150.



Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Food Security; Self-sufficiency;
Appropriations

Description:

Makes various appropriations to implement the recommendations of the increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy. Requires the Department of Agriculture to establish a strategy and goals for increased food security and self-sufficiency in Hawaii. (SB1313 HD1)

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