
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII FOOD RESILIENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is located
2 approximately 2,506 miles from the continental United States.
3 As the most geographically isolated state in the country, Hawaii
4 imports approximately ninety-two per cent of its food, according
5 to the Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments
6 Program. Currently, Hawaii has an inventory of fresh produce
7 that would supply consumers for no more than ten days. Ninety
8 per cent of the beef, sixty-seven per cent of the fresh
9 vegetables, sixty-five per cent of the fresh fruits, and eighty
10 per cent of all milk purchased in the State are imported. The
11 legislature also finds that Hawaii's reliance on out-of-state
12 sources of food places residents directly at risk of food
13 shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic
14 disruption, and other external factors beyond the State's
15 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 office of planning, in cooperation with the department
18 of agriculture, issued a report in October 2012, entitled
19 "Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy: A
20 State Strategic/Functional Plan Prepared in Accordance with HRS
21 Chapter 226 Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii Comprehensive



1 Economic Development Strategy". The executive summary of the
2 report states in pertinent part, "The purpose of the *Increased*
3 *Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy (Strategy)* is
4 to increase the amount of locally grown food consumed by Hawaii
5 residents. This will increase food self-sufficiency which is a
6 component of food security. The Strategy is a living document
7 intended as a first step toward continued dialog and
8 implementation".

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



1 In addition, the three strategic objectives of the
2 increased food security and food self-sufficiency strategy are
3 increasing demand for and access to locally grown foods,
4 increasing production of locally grown foods, and providing
5 policy and organizational support to meet food self-sufficiency
6 needs.

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

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

14 (b) Through the strategy, the department shall identify
15 goals to achieve the following:

16 (1) Increasing demand for and access to locally grown
17 foods by:

18 (A) Expanding local marketing campaigns to promote
19 the benefits of buying local foods;

20 (B) Expanding and improving branding and labeling
21 programs and providing consumer education



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



1 (D) Encouraging a variety of distribution systems to
2 move goods to the market place;

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

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

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

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

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
3 year 2018-2019 for the department of agriculture to produce
4 product promotional materials along with other endeavors such as
5 in-store promotions.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



1 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
2 year 2018-2019 for the establishment of specialists to certify
3 farm food safety.

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

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

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

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

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
21 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
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
5 year 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
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
12 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
13 year 2018-2019 to provide funding for research, training, and
14 education on agricultural food development and food security.

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

17 SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on March 9, 2012.



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. Effective 3/9/2092. (SD1)

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