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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1       SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to provide creative  
2 means of financing for agriculture businesses in Hawaii by:

3       (1) Establishing the agriculture accelerator program to  
4 authorize the agribusiness development corporation to  
5 provide moneys and invest in existing or new  
6 agriculture businesses approved by the board of  
7 directors of the agribusiness development corporation  
8 in return for equity in those agriculture businesses;  
9 and

10       (2) Establishing an agriculture accelerator special fund  
11 to provide funds for the agribusiness development  
12 corporation to provide moneys to and invest in  
13 agriculture businesses under the agriculture  
14 accelerator program.

15       SECTION 2. Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
17 and to read as follows:



1        "§163D-        Agriculture accelerator program; special fund.

2        (a) There is established the agriculture accelerator program to  
3        be administered by the corporation. Subject to approval by the  
4        board, the corporation may provide moneys to existing or new  
5        agriculture businesses that engage in farming, aquaculture, or  
6        ranching activities in the State in return for one to six per  
7        cent equity in the agriculture business. Moneys received by an  
8        agriculture business under the program shall be used for the  
9        following purposes:

10        (1) Purchasing equipment;

11        (2) Improving energy efficiency;

12        (3) Studying, planning, and constructing a new process and  
13        packaging facility;

14        (4) Training in food safety technology;

15        (5) Acquiring branding and marketing support; or

16        (6) Other uses approved by the board.

17        (b) The corporation may invest in other agriculture  
18        businesses under this program in return for equity in the  
19        agriculture business; provided that these agriculture businesses  
20        shall be approved by the board.



1        (c) There is established within the state treasury the  
2 agriculture accelerator special fund. The following moneys  
3 shall be deposited into the special fund:

4        (1) Any appropriation by the legislature into the special  
5 fund;

6        (2) Any grant or donation made to the special fund; and

7        (3) Any interest earned on the balance of the special  
8 fund.

9 Moneys in the special fund shall be used by the corporation to  
10 invest in existing or new agriculture businesses under the  
11 agriculture accelerator program pursuant to subsection (a).

12        (d) The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to  
13 implement the purposes of this section."

14        SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

15        SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 31, 2150.



**Report Title:**

Agriculture Accelerator Program; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Special Fund

**Description:**

Establishes the Agriculture Accelerator Program (Program) to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) to invest in existing or new agriculture businesses approved by the Board of Directors of ADC in return for equity in those agriculture businesses. Establishes an Agriculture Accelerator Special Fund to provide moneys that ADC may invest in agriculture businesses under the Program. (SB2522 HD1)

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

