

JAN 20 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABLE AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the sustainable and  
2 organic agriculture program administered by the University of  
3 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources is a  
4 part of the world's largest nontraditional education system, the  
5 cooperative extension system. Across Hawaii, farmers are  
6 experimenting with different ways of producing agricultural  
7 products in ways that are sustainable and beneficial to the  
8 social, economic, and environmental well-being of farm families  
9 and the rural communities in which they live.

10           The legislature further finds that the sustainable and  
11 organic agriculture program simultaneously focuses on three  
12 equally important challenges:

- 13           (1) Providing a more profitable farm income;  
14           (2) Promoting environmental stewardship; and  
15           (3) Promoting stable, prosperous farm families and  
16           communities.



1 However, without adequate funding and staff, the sustainable and  
2 organic agriculture program is unable to fully meet its goals.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys for the  
4 sustainable and organic agriculture program of the University of  
5 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources to  
6 support the growth and sustainability of the local agriculture  
7 industry.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000 or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
12 2018-2019 for the sustainable and organic agriculture program  
13 administered by the University of Hawaii college of tropical  
14 agriculture and human resources, which shall be allocated as  
15 follows:

- 16 (1) \$70,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)  
17 educational assistant for the State;
- 18 (2) \$70,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)  
19 research and extension assistant at the University of  
20 Hawaii at Manoa;



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- 1 (3) \$70,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)
- 2 research and extension assistant to serve the counties
- 3 of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the city and county of
- 4 Honolulu; and
- 5 (4) \$40,000 for operating expenses.

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

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

9 INTRODUCED BY:

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# S.B. NO. 355

**Report Title:**

CTAHR Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program; Position  
Funding; Operating Expenses; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for three positions and operating expenses of  
the sustainable and organic agriculture program administered by  
the UH college of tropical agriculture and human resources.

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

