
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the average age of
2 farmers in Hawaii is over sixty years. The legislature further
3 finds that Hawaii does not have an adequate-sized farming
4 workforce for increasing food sustainability statewide.
5 Declining support for agriculture education from state
6 government, including training for agriculture teachers, has
7 exacerbated the shortage of students pursuing the fields of
8 agriculture and natural resource management.

9 The legislature recognizes that while ancestral Hawaiians
10 were completely self-sufficient, Hawaii currently imports
11 approximately eighty-five to ninety per cent of its food, which
12 undermines the health of Hawaii's people, the 'aina, and food
13 systems. To meet the State's aspirations for increased food
14 security, the number of local farms and farmers and the amount
15 of food produced for local markets must increase significantly.
16 Agriculture education is key to the development of future
17 farmers and to the green new deal for society that values and



1 understands the vital role of agriculture, food, fiber, and
2 natural resource systems in advancing personal, local, and
3 global well-being. During the past decade, a vibrant grassroots
4 movement in support of agriculture education has emerged in
5 Hawaii, along with a marked increase in new farmer training
6 programs and student involvement in Future Farmers of America.

7 To encourage this momentum, in 2015, Senate Resolution No.
8 80 was adopted, which requested the University of Hawaii at
9 Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human resources to
10 convene a working group to develop a coordinated framework of
11 support for preschool through post-secondary (P-20) agriculture
12 education and a plan for implementation, as well as to develop a
13 statewide coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture
14 education. The working group was also requested to submit
15 reports, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature
16 prior to the 2017, 2018, and 2019 regular sessions. The working
17 group's final report to the legislature in 2019 outlined a
18 coordinated framework of support for P-20 agriculture education
19 in Hawaii and asserted that implementation of the framework will
20 require that a P-20 agriculture education coordinator position
21 be established within University of Hawaii at Manoa college of



1 tropical agriculture and human resources and funded to oversee
2 ongoing communication and collaboration of the P-20 agriculture
3 education working group and spearhead the implementation plan.

4 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to increase local
5 food security by:

6 (1) Creating a farm to school pilot program to provide
7 grants to schools seeking to expand agriculture
8 education initiatives; and

9 (2) Funding a P-20 agriculture education coordinator
10 position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa
11 college of tropical agriculture and human resources.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
14 and to read as follows:

15 "§304A- P-20 agriculture education coordinator;
16 established. (a) There is established within the college of
17 tropical agriculture and human resources the position of a P-20
18 agriculture education coordinator who shall:

19 (1) Coordinate preschool through post-secondary (P-20)
20 agriculture education;



1 (2) Oversee ongoing communication and collaboration of the
2 P-20 agriculture education working group; and

3 (3) Lead implementation of the coordinated framework of
4 support for P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii.

5 (b) The P-20 agriculture education coordinator and the
6 P-20 agriculture education working group shall carry out the
7 implementation plan for the coordinated framework of support for
8 P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii as follows:

9 (1) Teacher development: Prioritize teacher training in
10 agriculture and food systems education at all levels
11 for those preparing to become teachers ("pre-service
12 teachers"), as well as additional professional
13 development for teachers already in classrooms ("in-
14 service teachers");

15 (2) Curricular integration: Integrate agriculture
16 education into the core curriculum in all subject
17 areas at all levels;

18 (3) Agriculture educators: Establish and fund positions
19 at the state, community, and school levels that
20 directly support teacher development and curricular
21 integration around agriculture and food systems; and



- 1 (4) Capacity building:
- 2 (A) Continue communication and collaboration of the
- 3 P-20 agriculture education working group and its
- 4 subcommittees;
- 5 (B) Plan and conduct ongoing needs assessments and
- 6 progress evaluations;
- 7 (C) Cultivate new partnerships and seek alignment
- 8 with other relevant initiatives, including the
- 9 department of labor and industrial relations
- 10 agriculture workforce advisory board;
- 11 (D) Identify and write proposals for additional
- 12 sources of funding; and
- 13 (E) Oversee publication of an annual report to the
- 14 legislature."

15 SECTION 3. (a) There is established within the department
16 of agriculture a two-year farm to school grant pilot program.
17 The department of agriculture shall collaborate with the
18 department of education, department of health, public charter
19 schools, University of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical
20 agriculture and human resources, and farm to school stakeholders
21 to provide grants to the following eligible entities:



- 1 (1) Department of education public schools;
 - 2 (2) Public charter schools;
 - 3 (3) Publicly funded early care and education centers;
 - 4 (4) Nonprofit organizations;
 - 5 (5) Soil and water conservation districts organized
 - 6 pursuant to chapter 180, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
 - 7 (6) Farmers, ranchers, and other food vendors registered
 - 8 with the department of agriculture farm to school
 - 9 grant pilot program.
- 10 (b) An eligible entity may apply to the department of
- 11 agriculture for a grant to support:
- 12 (1) The procurement of foods produced or processed in the
 - 13 State that meet the Hawaii products preference
 - 14 requirements of section 103D-1002, Hawaii Revised
 - 15 Statutes;
 - 16 (2) Food-based, agriculture-based, farm-based, and school
 - 17 garden-based educational and apprenticeship
 - 18 activities;
 - 19 (3) Initiatives to sustain or expand existing farm to
 - 20 school programs; or



1 (4) Food safety and good agricultural practices training
2 and implementation;
3 provided that an entity that receives a grant shall use the
4 moneys for costs directly associated with the approved
5 activities, including labor and professional fees for employees
6 or contractors, professional development and relevant teacher
7 substitute costs, training expenses, travel costs, or necessary
8 supplies and equipment purchased for the activities.

9 (c) The department of agriculture shall collaborate with
10 the department of education, department of health, public
11 charter schools, University of Hawaii at Manoa college of
12 tropical agriculture and human resources, and other farm to
13 school stakeholders to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91,
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, necessary to implement the farm to
15 school grant pilot program, including but not limited to:

16 (1) Rules establishing the amounts of grants to be
17 awarded;

18 (2) Procedures for applying for grants; and

19 (3) Criteria for awarding grants that shall include:

20 (A) A preference for entities that propose activities
21 that are well designed, promote healthy food



1 activities, have clear educational objectives,
2 involve parents and the community, expand
3 agricultural career pathways, increase local food
4 production, are connected to existing farm to
5 school procurement activities, and are culturally
6 relevant to the students being served by the
7 grant moneys;

8 (B) Representation of a variety of school sizes and
9 geographic locations among the selected grant
10 recipients; and

11 (C) Priority for school communities that are
12 designated as Title I among the selected grant
13 recipients.

14 (d) The P-20 agriculture education coordinator shall
15 submit a report to the legislature on the value and outcome of
16 the farm to school grant pilot program and any recommendations
17 regarding the program, including proposed legislation, no later
18 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
19 of 2022.

20 (e) The farm to school grant pilot program shall be
21 repealed on June 30, 2022.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the following sums or so much
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to carry
 4 out the purposes of this Act:

5 (1) \$ for the farm to school grant pilot program
 6 to administer and provide grants to recipients of the
 7 farm to school grant pilot program; and

8 (2) \$ to assist farmers, ranchers, and other
 9 food vendors registered with the farm to school grant
 10 pilot program in acquiring good agricultural practices
 11 certifications from the United States Department of
 12 Agriculture.

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

15 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
 16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to
 18 establish the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position
 19 within the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical
 20 agriculture and human resources to oversee ongoing communication
 21 and collaboration of the P-20 agriculture education working



1 group and to lead the implementation plan for a coordinated
2 framework of support for P-20 agriculture education in Hawaii.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
4 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
7 provided that sections 4 and 5 shall take effect on July 1,
8 2020.

INTRODUCED BY:

Amy Ramos
John M. Maza
Anthony Wheeler
Richard Lujan
David Carner
Atal Kish
Samuel S. King
Helelani
Calvin H. Boy
Chris
Gregory

JAN 17 2020



H.B. NO. 1936

Report Title:

Agriculture Education; Farm to School; DOA; UH-CTAHR;
Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a P-20 agriculture education coordinator position within UH-CTAHR. Establishes a two-year farm to school grant pilot program within DOA to sunset on June 30, 2022. Appropriates funds for the farm to school grant pilot program and the P-20 agriculture education coordinator position.

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

