

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COFFEE.

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

I	PART I
2	SECTION 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the
3	Kona Coffee Blend Protection Act.
4	PART II
5	SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall apply
6	for a geographical indication, or a similar intellectual
7	property registration, with the United States Patent and
8	Trademark Office for the term "Kona Coffee Blend"; provided that
9	the use of the intellectual property registration shall be
10	reserved for the use by roasted or instant coffee consisting of
11	a blend of one or more coffees grown in the Kona district and
12	coffee not grown in the Kona district and where the amount of
13	coffee grown in the Kona district is at least fifteen per cent
14	of the blend by weight.
15	(b) As used in this section, "Kona district" has the same
16	meaning as in section 237- , Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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1	SECTION 3. 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 2021-2022 for
4	the department of agriculture to apply to register a
5	geographical indication mark on behalf of coffee farmers as
6	provided in section 2 of this Act; provided that the State's
7	general fund shall be reimbursed for the amount appropriated in
8	this section as provided in section 4 of this Act.
9	The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
10	agriculture for the purposes of this Act.
11	PART III
12	SECTION 4. Chapter 237, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
14	and to read as follows:
15	"§237- Kona coffee farmers; surcharge to reimburse
16	state funds. (a) In addition to the tax imposed by section
17	237-13 or any other provision in this chapter, there is levied
18	and shall be assessed and collected a Kona coffee surcharge
19	equivalent to per cent of the gross proceeds of the sale
20	of cherry coffee, parchment coffee, or green coffee beans grown

in the Kona district of the island of Hawaii.

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1	(b) With respect to the surcharge established by this
2	section, all provisions of this chapter shall apply and the
3	director of taxation shall have all the rights and powers
4	provided under this chapter.
5	(c) The director of taxation shall revise the general
6	excise tax forms to provide for the clear and separate
7	designation of the imposition and payment of the surcharge
8	established by this section.
9	(d) The director of taxation shall begin to collect the
10	surcharge authorized by this section beginning January 1, 2022,
11	and shall continue to collect the surcharge until the close of
12	the taxable year in which the director of finance certifies to
13	the department of taxation that enough revenue has been
14	collected pursuant to the surcharge authorized by this section
15	to reimburse all moneys appropriated from the general fund by
16	section 3 of Act , Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, plus interest
17	at the rate of two per cent per year, compounded monthly.
18	(e) As used in this section:
19	"Cherry coffee" means an agricultural commodity comprising
20	the unprocessed fruit of a coffee plant.

1	"Green coffee beans" means coffee beans that have been
2	processed from cherry coffee by removing the pulp, the adhering
3	mucilage, and the hull.
4	"Kona district" means the geographic region of Kona, as
5	defined by the department of agriculture by rules adopted under
6	section 147-22.
7	"Parchment" means the portion of the fruit of the coffee
8	plant consisting of the hull, from which the pulp has been
9	removed, and the enclosed seed.
10	"Parchment coffee" means an agricultural commodity
11	comprising parchment."
12	PART IV
13	SECTION 5. Section 486-120.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14	amended as follows:
15	1. By amending subsection (c) to read:
16	"(c) It shall be a violation of this section to:
17	(1) Use the identity statement specified in subsection
18	(a)(1)(A) or similar terms in labeling or advertising
19	unless the package of roasted or instant coffee
20	contains one hundred per cent coffee from that one
21	geographic origin;

1	(2)	Use a geographic origin in labeling or advertising,
2		including in conjunction with a coffee style or in any
3		other manner, if the roasted or instant coffee
4		contains less than [ten] fifteen per cent coffee by
5		weight from that geographic origin;
6	(3)	Use a geographic origin in advertising roasted or
7		instant coffee, including advertising in conjunction
8		with a coffee style or in any other manner, without
9		disclosing the percentage of coffee used from that
10		geographic origin as described in subsection (a)(1)(B)
11		and (a)(2);
12	(4)	Use a geographic origin in labeling or advertising
13		roasted or instant coffee, including in conjunction
14		with a coffee style or in any other manner, if the
15		green coffee beans used in that roasted or instant
16		coffee do not meet the grade standard requirements of
17		rules adopted under chapter 147;
18	(5)	Misrepresent, on a label or in advertising of a
19		roasted or instant coffee, the per cent coffee by
20		weight of any coffee from a geographic origin or
21		regional origin;

1	(6)	Use the term "All Hawaiian" on a label or in
2		advertising of a roasted or instant coffee if the
3		roasted or instant coffee is not produced entirely
4		from green coffee beans produced in geographic origins
5		defined in this chapter;
6	(7)	Use a geographic origin on the front label panel of a
7		package of roasted or instant coffee other than in the
8		trademark or in the identity statement as authorized
9		in subsection (a)(1) and (2) unless one hundred per
10		cent of the roasted or instant coffee contained in the
11		package is from that geographic origin;
12	(8)	Use more than one trademark on a package of roasted or
13		instant coffee unless one hundred per cent of the
14		roasted or instant coffee contained in the package is
15		from that geographic origin specified by the
16		trademark;
17	(9)	Use a trademark that begins with the name of a
18		geographic origin on a package of roasted or instant
19		coffee unless one hundred per cent of the roasted or
20		instant coffee contained in the package comes from

1		that geographic origin or the trademark ends with
2		words that indicate a business entity; [or]
3	(10)	Use the term "Kona Coffee Blend" in a manner that
4		violates federal law if that term is registered as a
5		geographical indication or other certification mark
6		with the United States Patent and Trademark Office; or
7	(11)	Print the identity statement required by subsection
8		(a) in a smaller font than that used for a trademark
9		that includes the name of a geographic origin pursuant
10		to paragraph (7) and in a location other than the
11		front label panel of a package of roasted or instant
12		coffee."
13	2.	By amending subsection (e) to read:
14	"(e)	For the purpose of this section:
15	"Cer	tification mark" has the same meaning as contained in
16	title 15	United States Code section 1127.
17	<u>"Geo</u>	graphical indication" means a geographical indication
18	as define	d in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of
19	Intellect	ual Property Rights (TRIPS), Annex 1C of the Marrakesh
20	Agreement	Establishing the World Trade Organization.

•	ocographic origin means the geographic regions in which
2	Hawaii-grown green coffee beans are produced, as defined in
3	rules adopted under chapter 147; provided that the term
4	"Hawaiian" may be substituted for the geographic origin
5	"Hawaii".
6	"Per cent coffee by weight" means the percentage calculated
7	by dividing the weight in pounds of roasted green coffee beans
8	of one geographic or regional origin used in a production run of
9	roasted or instant coffee, by the total weight in pounds of the
10	roasted green coffee beans used in that production run of
11	roasted or instant coffee, and multiplying the quotient by one
12	hundred."
13	PART V
14	SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
15	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
16	SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.
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	INTRODUCED BY: 3

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Report Title:

HDOA; B&F; Taxation; Intellectual Property; Kona Coffee Blend; Geographical Indication; General Excise Tax; Appropriation

Description:

Requires and appropriates funds to the department of agriculture to apply to register the term "Kona Coffee Blend" as a geographical indication or a similar intellectual property registration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Establishes a surcharge on the sale of certain coffee commodifies to reimburse the general funds appropriated. Requires a roasted coffee or instant coffee to contain at least fifteen per cent coffee by weight from a geographic origin to use that geographic origin in labeling or advertising.

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