A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LOANS.

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

1	SECT	ION 1. Section 155-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended to	o read as follows:
3	"§15	5-4 Powers and duties of the department. The
4	departmen	t of agriculture shall have the following powers:
5	(1)	Employ a secretary, who may be exempt from chapter 76,
6		and other full-time and part-time employees, subject
7		to chapter 76, as are necessary to effectuate the
8		purposes of this chapter, subject further to the
9		limitation of funds in the agricultural loan reserve
10		fund;
11	(2)	Designate agents throughout the State as may be
12		necessary for property appraisal, the consideration of
13		loan applications, and the supervision of farming
14		operations of borrowers. The agents may be
15		compensated for their services at rates the department

in its discretion may fix;

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1	(3)	initiate and carry on a continuing research and
2		education program, utilizing and coordinating the
3		services and facilities of other government agencies
4		and private lenders to the maximum, to inform
5		qualified farmers concerning procedures for obtaining
6		loans and to inform private lenders concerning the
7		advantages of making loans to qualified farmers;
8	(4)	Cooperate with private and federal government farm
9		loan sources to increase the amount of loan funds
10		available to qualified farmers in the State;
11	(5)	Assist individual qualified farmers in obtaining loans
12		from other sources. Insofar as available funds and
13		staff permit, counsel and assist individual farmers in
14		establishing and maintaining proper records to prove
15		their farming ability for loan purposes;
16	(6)	Insure loans made to qualified farmers and food
17		manufacturers by private lenders under section 155-5;
18	(7)	Participate in loans made to qualified farmers and
19		food manufacturers by private lenders under section
20		155-6;

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1	(8)	Make direct loans to qualified farmers and food
2		manufacturers under section 155-8;
3	(9)	Borrow money for loan purposes;
4	(10)	Assign and sell mortgages;
5	(11)	Hold title to, maintain, use, manage, operate, sell,
6		lease, or otherwise dispose of personal and real
7		property acquired by way of foreclosure, voluntary
8		surrender, or otherwise, to recover moneys loaned;
9	(12)	Sue and be sued in the name of the "State of Hawaii";
10	(13)	Exercise incidental powers as are deemed necessary or
11		requisite to fulfill its duty in carrying out the
12		purposes of this chapter;
13	(14)	Delegate authority to its chairperson to approve
14		loans, where the requested amount plus any principal
15		balance on existing loans to the applicant, does not
16		exceed $[$25,000]$ $$50,000$ of state funds; and
17	(15)	Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary for the
18		purpose of this chapter."
19	SECT	TON 2. Section 219-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20	amended b	by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

- 1 "(b) The chairperson may approve loans, where the
- 2 requested amount, plus any principal balance on existing loans
- 3 to the applicant, does not exceed [\$25,000] \$50,000 of state
- 4 funds."
- 5 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Department of Agriculture; Agricultural Loan Program; Aquaculture Loan Program; Increase

Description:

Increases the Board of Agriculture Chairperson's authority to approve agricultural loans and aquacultural loans not to exceed \$50,000 of state funds, rather than \$25,000.

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