

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE HOMESTEAD AGRICULTURAL
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Hawaiian Home
2 Lands' most recent annual report, dated 2019, there are four
3 hundred twenty-seven existing lease awards for agricultural or
4 pastoral lands on the island of Molokai, and forty-seven
5 existing lease awards for agricultural or pastoral lands on the
6 island of Kauai; and

7
8 WHEREAS, there are 1,314 native Hawaiian families on the
9 waitlist for agricultural or pastoral lease awards for the
10 island of Molokai, and the waitlist for agricultural or pastoral
11 lease awards for the island of Kauai consists of 2,585 names;
12 and

13
14 WHEREAS, the foregoing statistics do not include
15 residential lease awards; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead
18 Associations and its Mokuuni leaders are pursuing homestead
19 agricultural demonstration projects to seed successful farming
20 and ranching initiatives on native Hawaiian trust lands managed
21 by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the purpose of the homestead agricultural
24 demonstration project is to assist farmers and ranchers in
25 reaching greater levels of agricultural production at the
26 planting, harvest, and market stages; access initial private
27 capitalization; and obtain technical support; and

28
29 WHEREAS, the homestead agricultural demonstration project
30 seeks to support relevant, non-invasive agricultural means to
31 farm, harvest, and market agricultural products, which may
32 include food products for human consumption or appropriate grass
33 products targeted at cattle feeding needs within the State or
34 applicable areas; and



1 WHEREAS, due to economic uncertainty caused by the
2 coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, the homestead agricultural
3 demonstration project endeavors to mitigate front-end economic
4 risk to participating farmers and ranchers and increase economic
5 opportunity on the back-end sale of products in the marketplace
6 to establish a sustainable small-farm business plan that can be
7 replicated on homesteads on other islands; and

8
9 WHEREAS, the homestead agricultural demonstration project
10 requires strategic collaboration among the Homestead Community
11 Development Corporation, Hawaiian Lending and Investments (which
12 are both under the control of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
13 Homestead Associations), Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, and
14 the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the
15 University of Hawaii at Manoa to:

- 16
17 (1) Enroll at least four existing Hawaiian home lands farm
18 or ranch lessees on to the homestead agricultural
19 demonstration project;
20
21 (2) Establish a low-cost financing or equity investment
22 pool for project participants;
23
24 (3) Establish technical agricultural support services to
25 assist project participants;
26
27 (4) Establish a learning cohort of farm and ranch lessees
28 and relevant organizations to support full project
29 implementation and publish a demonstration project
30 report of the results, solutions, and challenges of
31 the project; and
32
33 (5) Obtain project-implementation assistance from
34 governmental agencies, including the Department of
35 Hawaiian Home Lands, the Department of Agriculture,
36 the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the
37 counties; and
38

39 WHEREAS, the purpose of the homestead agricultural
40 demonstration project is to create homestead-based economic
41 development in livestock ranching and provide supportive paniolo
42 workforce housing rentals; and



1 WHEREAS, the homestead agricultural demonstration project
2 endeavors to create an appropriately-sized, ranching-based
3 economy and jump-start greater participation in ranching by
4 establishing a one hundred-acre cattle and stabling initiative,
5 on Hawaiian home lands that are designated for commercial use,
6 and supporting homestead families in the region; and
7

8 WHEREAS, due to the severe lack of affordable housing for
9 young, typically single, paniolo talent, the homestead
10 agricultural demonstration project further seeks to support an
11 agriculture-based economy by developing up to twenty farm and
12 ranch worker rental units consisting of one-bedroom and studio
13 units on three acres of Hawaiian home lands licensed to a
14 homestead association with ready access to roads, water,
15 utilities, and financing; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the homestead agricultural demonstration project
18 is intended to be replicated on other islands' homesteads; and
19

20 WHEREAS, the homestead agricultural demonstration project
21 requires strategic collaboration among the Homestead Community
22 Development Corporation, Hawaiian Lending and Investments,
23 Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, and the College of Tropical
24 Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at
25 Manoa to:
26

- 27 (1) Obtain from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands a
28 month-to-month revocable permit on the relevant one
29 hundred acres of Hawaiian home lands for a Hawaiian
30 homestead association (which is a member of the
31 Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations)
32 to complete relevant processes relating to due
33 diligence, feasibility, ranching, and commercial
34 purposes;
35
- 36 (2) Obtain from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands the
37 approval to revise an existing thirty-five-year
38 license on ten acres of Hawaiian home lands held by
39 the Hawaiian homestead association for economic
40 purposes, specifically to authorize residential rental
41 units for farm and ranch working housing;
42



S.R. NO. 206

- 1 (3) Establish technical livestock ranching support
- 2 services to assess feasibility and develop a business
- 3 plan with financial pro forma on the development
- 4 project components;
- 5
- 6 (4) Establish a learning cohort of farming and ranching
- 7 families and relevant organizations to support full
- 8 project implementation and publish a demonstration
- 9 project report of the results, solutions, and
- 10 challenges of the project;
- 11
- 12 (5) Close on conventional interim construction and long-
- 13 term take-out financing on the farm and ranch worker
- 14 housing component; and
- 15
- 16 (6) Obtain project-implementation assistance from
- 17 governmental agencies, including the Department of
- 18 Hawaiian Home Lands, the Department of Agriculture,
- 19 the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the
- 20 Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation,
- 21 and the counties; now, therefore,

22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first

24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,

25 that the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, or the

26 Chairperson's designee, is requested to convene and serve as the

27 chair of a Homestead Agricultural Demonstration Projects Working

28 Group; and

29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are

31 requested to serve as members of the Homestead Agricultural

32 Demonstration Projects Working Group:

- 33
- 34 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the
- 35 Chairperson's designee;
- 36
- 37 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
- 38 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
- 39
- 40 (3) The Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative
- 41 Extension at the College of Tropical Agriculture and

S.R. NO. 206

- 1 Human Resources at the University of Hawaii at Manoa,
2 or the Dean and Director's designee;
- 3
- 4 (4) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
5 Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, or
6 the Chairperson's designee;
- 7
- 8 (5) The Mayor of each of the counties, or the Mayor's
9 designee;
- 10
- 11 (6) The Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
12 Homestead Associations, or the Chairperson's designee;
- 13
- 14 (7) The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Estate
15 of Bernice Pauahi Bishop, or the Chairperson's
16 designee; and
- 17
- 18 (8) Other stakeholders who may be invited by the chair of
19 the working group; and
- 20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
22 to consider and develop recommendations to facilitate the
23 Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations' homestead
24 agricultural demonstration projects; and

25
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
27 to submit its findings and recommendations, including any
28 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
29 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved
32 on June 30, 2022; and

33
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Hawaiian
36 Homes Commission, Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture,
37 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Dean and
38 Director for Research and Cooperative Extension at the College
39 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of
40 Hawaii at Manoa, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
41 Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Mayor of the
42 County of Maui, Mayor of the County of Kauai, Mayor of the

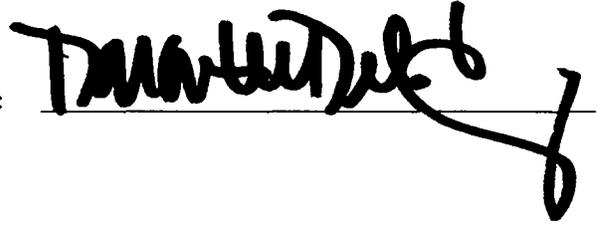


S.R. NO. 206

1 County of Hawaii, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu,
2 Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead
3 Associations, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the
4 Estate of Bernice Pauahi Bishop.

5
6
7

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly stylized and cursive, appearing to read "D. M. [unclear]".