
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD SECURITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's food banks
2 have provided food to those in need for nearly forty years.
3 Food bank reserves have filled a critical need during disaster
4 situations in the State, including in the aftermath of Hurricane
5 Iniki, during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, and the
6 Lahaina wildfire. The legislature further finds that people
7 rely more heavily on Hawaii's food banks during and after these
8 disaster situations. The legislature notes that following the
9 Lahaina wildfire that displaced several thousand residents on
10 Maui, the demand placed on food banks sharply increased. Within
11 three months of the wildfire, Maui Food Bank surpassed its usual
12 annual supply of three million pounds of food, demonstrating the
13 State's need to expand its food storage capacity in the event of
14 further disaster situations.

15 The legislature additionally finds that food insecurity is
16 a rising critical issue in Hawaii. As the cost of food in the
17 State has increased by more than five per cent in the last



1 twelve months, the legislature finds that addressing the ongoing
2 food security needs of the people of Hawaii is imperative. The
3 legislature further finds that purchasing food from local
4 farmers to support food banks supports Hawaii's economy and
5 support local farmers. Furthermore, funds for food banks used
6 for farm to food bank participation will benefit those needing
7 food as well as the economy.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for food
9 bank purchases from local farmers, with the funds to be
10 administered by the department of agriculture via requests for
11 proposals.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
15 food bank purchases from local farmers.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
17 agriculture via requests for proposals for the purposes of this
18 Act.

19 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
20 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
21 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the



1 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
2 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
3 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
4 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
5 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
6 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
7 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
8 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
9 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
10 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
11 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:
12 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
13 serve the public interest; and
14 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
15 addressed by this Act.
16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

Food Banks; Farm to Food Bank; Department of Agriculture
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Appropriates funds for food bank purchases from local farmers,
to be expended by the Department of Agriculture via requests for
proposals. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

