
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that hemp is among the
2 fastest growing plants on earth and can be refined into a
3 variety of useful items such as paper, rope, textiles, clothing,
4 biodegradable plastics, paint, building insulation, biofuel, and
5 animal feed. Hemp-derived products are so wide-ranging that the
6 creation of a decorticator processing facility and its
7 consequent production and sales of hemp-derived materials have
8 the potential to boost economic growth and create jobs in the
9 State.

10 The legislature further finds that there is potentially
11 numerous acreage designated for hemp production on Oahu, Hawaii
12 island, Maui, and Kauai and that the lack of access to
13 processing infrastructure hinders the ability of growers and
14 producers to engage in large-scale processing of hemp plants.
15 Thus, infrastructure established by the department of
16 agriculture can provide for meaningful growth of the hemp
17 industry and related jobs in the State.



1 The legislature additionally finds that the unusable parts
2 of processed hemp can be used to support organic composting in
3 the State. Infrastructure could also be used by invasive
4 species committees and the department of land and natural
5 resources to properly process and dispose of invasive plant
6 species to disrupt a potential route of contamination back into
7 the land while also freeing up landfill space.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 9 (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to hire a
10 consultant to identify the infrastructure needs of
11 hemp farmers and the hemp industry in Hawaii; and
12 (2) Require the consultant to prepare and submit a report
13 of the consultant's findings.

14 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall hire a
15 consultant to work with hemp farmers to identify the
16 infrastructure needs of hemp farmers and the hemp industry in
17 Hawaii, considering the unique needs and geographic spread of
18 licensed hemp farmers in the State and the various needs of the
19 hemp industry.

20 (b) No later than July 1, 2024, the consultant shall
21 submit to the legislature, governor, and chairperson of the



1 board of agriculture a report of the consultant's findings
2 through a concise outline of recommended infrastructure by
3 island.

4 (c) The outline shall include schematics showing the
5 various processing steps and infrastructure needed from harvest
6 to product for various sectors, with:

- 7 (1) Approximate costs per infrastructure component;
- 8 (2) Sizing and capacity options (e.g., mobile vs. fixed
9 and volume/mass per day); and
- 10 (3) The approximate square footage required per component.

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for
14 the department of agriculture to hire a consultant to:

- 15 (1) Work with hemp farmers in Hawaii to identify the
16 infrastructure needs of hemp farmers and the hemp
17 industry in Hawaii; and
- 18 (2) Prepare and submit a report of the consultant's
19 findings,

20 pursuant to section 2 of this Act.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



H.B. NO. 657 H.D. 1

Report Title:

Hemp; Infrastructure Needs; Consultant; Report; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the department of agriculture to hire a consultant to work with hemp farmers to identify the infrastructure needs of hemp farmers and the hemp industry in Hawaii. Requires report to the legislature, governor, and chairperson of the board of agriculture. Effective 6/30/3000.
(HD1)

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