
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRIVOLTAICS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's
2 agricultural heritage is deeply intertwined with its cultural
3 identity, reflecting a legacy of responsible land stewardship
4 and a profound connection to the natural environment.
5 Acknowledging the rich tapestry of traditions and practices that
6 define Hawaii's unique agricultural landscape, the legislature
7 recognizes the importance of safeguarding and perpetuating these
8 cultural values.

9 The legislature further finds that agrivoltaics, a
10 pioneering approach to land use, align with Hawaii's cultural
11 ethos by harmonizing modern technology with traditional
12 agricultural practices. The legislature acknowledges that this
13 practice not only enhances food and energy production but also
14 respects and preserves the cultural significance of agriculture
15 within the State.

16 The legislature recognizes how imperative it is to uphold
17 the principles of aloha aina, a deep-seated cultural concept



1 rooted in love and respect for the land. Agrivoltaics provide a
2 pathway for aligning modern development with the values of aloha
3 aina, as they encourage responsible land use that supports both
4 agricultural abundance and renewable energy production while
5 preserving the integrity of Hawaii's ecosystems.

6 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
7 agriculture to develop tax incentives, rebates, grants, and loan
8 programs to incentivize and provide financing for agrivoltaic
9 farms and solar energy systems on certain agricultural land.

10 SECTION 2. (a) The department of agriculture shall
11 develop tax incentives, rebates, grants, and loan programs to
12 incentivize and provide financing for agrivoltaic farms and
13 solar energy systems on commercial or privately held
14 agricultural land.

15 (b) In developing the incentives and financing options
16 pursuant to subsection (a), the department of agriculture shall
17 consider the following:

18 (1) A tax credit or rebate that covers thirty-five per
19 cent of the cost of solar energy systems, including
20 agrivoltaic systems, for commercial famers and
21 residents; and



1 (2) The privately held agricultural land on which
2 agrivoltaic systems or solar energy systems are to be
3 located shall be actively cultivated in conjunction
4 with, not separate from, the system in order to be
5 eligible for incentives or financing options.

6 (c) The department of agriculture shall submit a report of
7 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY:

NMB

JAN 22 2024



H.B. NO. 2288

Report Title:

Agrivoltaics; Solar Energy; Agricultural Land; DOA; Tax
Incentives; Financing

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop tax incentives, rebates, grants, and loan programs to incentivize and provide financing for agrivoltaic farms and solar energy systems on certain agricultural land. Requires a report to the legislature.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

