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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that according to data  
2 from the United States Centers for Disease Control and  
3 Prevention, over fifteen percent of the United States'  
4 population, or forty-nine million individuals, suffered from  
5 bacterial infections linked to foodborne illness. Additionally,  
6 over 128,000 individuals are hospitalized, and three thousand  
7 individuals die annually due to known pathogens transmitted  
8 through food in the United States. The legislature recognizes  
9 that Hawaii's very young and very old are the most susceptible  
10 and vulnerable to the harm caused by foodborne diseases. The  
11 legislature further finds that the proper handling of food, in  
12 compliance with the federal Food Safety Modernization Act, from  
13 source to sale is the best way to protect Hawaii and its people.

14           The purpose of this Act is to protect the health of  
15 Hawaii's consumers by establishing a task force to review the  
16 State's food security and food safety procedures.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force to  
2 review the State's food security and food safety practices and  
3 recommend specific actions to ensure that Hawaii's food imports,  
4 including meat, produce, and all dairy products, are sourced,  
5 transported, stored, and distributed to retailers, restaurants,  
6 institutions, schools, or any other designated place of sale to  
7 the public, in compliance with the federal Food Safety  
8 Modernization Act, including strict adherence to proper  
9 temperatures and handling at every control point from source to  
10 designated place of sale.

11 (b) To ensure Hawaii's food security and food safety, the  
12 task force shall develop specific recommendations to ensure that  
13 all foods and brands imported into Hawaii do not mislead or  
14 confuse the public through name, pictures, artwork, or  
15 statements in packaging or by advertising that imply the  
16 imported food's origin is from Hawaii or has the same freshness  
17 or qualities as food that is locally grown or produced in the  
18 State.

19 (c) To ensure a broad level of support and high level of  
20 necessary expertise, the task force members shall consist of:

21 (1) The director of health;



- 1           (2) Two members of the senate, to be selected by the  
2           president of the senate;
- 3           (3) The chairperson of the house of representatives  
4           standing committee on agriculture & food systems;
- 5           (4) The chairperson of the house of representatives  
6           standing committee on health & homelessness;
- 7           (5) One professor, associate professor, or assistant  
8           professor from the college of tropical agriculture and  
9           human resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;  
10          and
- 11          (6) Two private business owners of longstanding Hawaii-  
12          owned businesses that are directly involved in food  
13          distribution and are operating in compliance with the  
14          federal Food Safety Modernization Act, who shall be  
15          invited by the task force members identified in  
16          paragraphs (1) to (4).
- 17          (d) Members of the task force shall serve without  
18          compensation.
- 19          (e) The task force shall submit a report of its findings  
20          and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the



1 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
2 the regular session of 2024.

3 (f) The department of health shall provide any necessary  
4 administrative or clerical support to the task force, including  
5 the preparation of the report required by subsection (e).

6 (g) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2024.

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

8

INTRODUCED BY:

*John W. Perry*  
JAN 20 2023



# H.B. NO. 784

**Report Title:**

Food Safety; Task Force; Food Safety Modernization Act

**Description:**

Establishes a task force to review and recommend specific actions to ensure that Hawaii's food imports are sourced, transported, stored, and distributed in compliance with the federal Food Safety Modernization Act, and develop specific recommendations to ensure that all foods and brands imported into Hawaii do not mislead or confuse the public.

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