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## 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 many of Hawaii's  
2 farmers and ranchers are finding difficulty in securing the  
3 financial support necessary to build a thriving, vibrant  
4 business. Various sources of funding, including grants provided  
5 by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State,  
6 counties, and private entities, are available for farmers and  
7 ranchers. Access to grants from the United States Department of  
8 Agriculture and other sources can increase production capacity,  
9 provide new business opportunities, and increase employment  
10 opportunities within the State's agricultural industry.

11       The legislature further finds that farmers and ranchers  
12 applying for grants may have to complete an application process  
13 that is sometimes complex. Without specific technical expertise  
14 in grant writing, many farmers and ranchers may be deterred from  
15 applying for those grants. Well-trained and skilled grant  
16 specialists would be able to assist farmers and ranchers in  
17 obtaining and fulfilling the requirements of grants.



1       The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for grant  
2 specialist positions within the department of agriculture to  
3 assist farmers and ranchers in applying for, obtaining, and  
4 fulfilling the requirements of grants offered by the United  
5 States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private  
6 entities.

7       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$               or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 for  
10 the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) grant  
11 specialist positions within the department of agriculture to  
12 assist farmers and ranchers in applying for, obtaining, and  
13 fulfilling the requirements of grants offered by the United  
14 States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private  
15 entities; provided that the grant specialist positions shall  
16 prioritize assisting farmers and ranchers who produce local food  
17 that is at least partly consumed within the State.

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

20       SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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H.B. NO. 773

INTRODUCED BY:

*Kunt Kal*  
JAN 17 2025



# H.B. NO. 773

**Report Title:**

Department of Agriculture; Grant Specialist; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for grant specialist positions to assist farmers and ranchers in meeting the requirements to receive grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private entities.

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

