

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa, Chair
Rep. Matthias Kusch, Vice Chair

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen Rep. Sean Quinlan
Rep. Amy A. Perruso Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
TIME: 9:30 A.M.
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
 Conference Room 325
 State Capitol
 415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A

[HB 47](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO AQUACULTURE.
Authorizes the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State. Requires the Aquaculture Program to develop a risk-based framework and biocontainment standards for the aquatic livestock assessment and approval process. Makes appropriations.

AGR, CPC, FIN

[HB 781](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE WAIAHOLE WATER SYSTEM.
Appropriates funds for the Waiahole Water System for bond debt service and tunnel repair.

AGR, WAL, FIN

[HB 499](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO RESILIENCY.
Establishes the Food and Beverage Supply Chain Resiliency Income Tax Credit to be administered by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and Department of Taxation. Requires DBEDT to establish expedited permitting processes for food and beverage supply chain activities.

AGR, ECD, FIN



<u>HB 774</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS. Establishes a food and product innovation network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.	AGR, ECD, FIN
<u>HB 452</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO MEAT PROCESSING. Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop and implement a grant program to expand the meat processing capacity in the State. Appropriates funds.	AGR, ECD, FIN
<u>HB 496</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO MĀMAKI TEA. Imposes labeling requirements for māmaki tea grown in the State.	AGR, CPC, FIN
<u>HB 643</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE PROGRAM. Establishes short-term management initiatives for the coconut rhinoceros beetle response program. Appropriates funds for activities and positions related to coconut rhinoceros beetle infestation control.	AGR, HED, FIN
<u>HB 427</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO BIOSECURITY. Part I: Renames the Department of Agriculture to the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity". Renames the Board of Agriculture to the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity". Part II: Establishes and appropriates funds for a Deputy Director of Biosecurity. Part III: Changes references to the plant and animal declaration form to the "biosecurity form". Part IV: Authorizes and specifies conditions under which the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms. Broadens the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program. Part V: Appropriates funds for positions for the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity.	AGR, JHA, FIN
<u>HB 501</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. Establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement. Establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund. Establishes positions. Appropriates funds.	AGR, JHA, FIN
<u>HB 498</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL CRIMES. Establishes the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council. Expands the duties of the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with and support the Council. Authorizes the Council to withdraw and deposit moneys, revenues, and fines into and out of the Animal Industry Special Fund. Appropriates funds.	AGR, JHA, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.



The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at 586-8530. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-8530.

Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa
Chair

