

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FARMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established in the department of  
2 agriculture a food certification pilot program to benefit  
3 farmers throughout the state.

4           (b) The pilot program shall be managed by the department  
5 of agriculture; provided that the department of health shall  
6 provide the department of agriculture with assistance as  
7 necessary in implementing the pilot program. The pilot program  
8 shall:

9           (1) Encourage farmers to form agricultural cooperatives;

10           (2) Coordinate purchasing agreements between the  
11 agricultural cooperatives and hotels, restaurants, and  
12 other buyers in the visitor and hospitality  
13 industries; and

14           (3) Develop and implement "safe" food certification for  
15 products under the pilot program to promote fresh,  
16 high-quality, locally-grown produce grown by Hawaii  
17 farmers; provided that the department shall certify  
18 the produce of at least one hundred farmers each year.

1 All farmers operating in the state shall be eligible to apply  
2 for the pilot program.

3 (c) There is established in the state treasury the food  
4 certification pilot program special fund, into which shall be  
5 deposited:

6 (1) Appropriations made by the legislature;

7 (2) Gifts and grants; and

8 (3) Any other moneys available to the food certification  
9 pilot program special fund from other sources.

10 (d) The moneys in the food certification pilot program  
11 special fund shall be used by the department of agriculture for  
12 the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1 or so much thereof  
15 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum  
16 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011  
17 to be deposited into the food certification pilot program  
18 special fund established in section 1 of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the food  
20 certification pilot program special fund the sum of \$1 or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and  
22 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal

1 year 2010-2011 for the operations of the food certification  
2 pilot program established in section 1 of this Act.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
4 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2110, and  
6 shall be repealed on June 30, 2112; provided that all unexpended  
7 and unencumbered moneys remaining in the food certification  
8 pilot program special fund on June 30, 2112, shall lapse to the  
9 credit of the general fund.

**Report Title:**

Safe Food Certification; Pilot Program

**Description:**

Establishes a pilot program within the Department of Agriculture to encourage farmers to form agricultural cooperatives, coordinate purchasing agreements between the agricultural cooperatives and hotels, restaurants, and other buyers in the visitor and hospitality industries, and develop and implement safe food certification for products under the program. Requires the Department of Agriculture to certify the produce of a minimum of 100 farmers per year. Establishes the food certification pilot program special fund and appropriates funds for the program. (SD1)