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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 the State's  
2 overreliance on imported foods has threatened the State's food  
3 sustainability and economy. Nearly eighty-five per cent of the  
4 food consumed in the State is imported.

5           The legislature further recognizes the importance of local  
6 food production and has made efforts to ensure that local  
7 agriculture has necessary resources, such as access and leases  
8 to land, infrastructure, and water. Article XI, section 3, of  
9 the Hawaii constitution requires the State to conserve and  
10 protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture,  
11 increase agricultural self-sufficiency, and assure the  
12 availability of agriculturally suitable lands. Accordingly, the  
13 State has and continues to purchase fallow agricultural lands.  
14 However, funding resources are limited.

15           The purpose of this Act is to give preference to moneys  
16 deposited into the agricultural development and food security  
17 special fund from the environmental response, energy, and food



1 security tax for the acquisition of real property for  
2 agricultural production or processing activity.

3 SECTION 2. Section 141-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 "(c) Subject to legislative appropriation, moneys in the  
6 special fund may be expended for the following purposes:

7 (1) The awarding of grants to farmers for agricultural  
8 production or processing activity;

9 (2) The acquisition of real property for agricultural  
10 production or processing activity; provided that  
11 preference shall be given to using any moneys  
12 deposited into the special fund from the environmental  
13 response, energy, and food security tax, pursuant to  
14 section 243-3.5, to acquire real property for  
15 agricultural production or processing activity;

16 (3) The improvement of real property, dams, reservoirs,  
17 irrigation systems, and transportation networks  
18 necessary to promote agricultural production or  
19 processing activity, including investigative studies  
20 to identify and assess necessary improvements to dams,  
21 reservoirs, irrigation systems, and transportation  
22 networks;



- 1           (4) The purchase of equipment necessary for agricultural
- 2                   production or processing activity;
- 3           (5) The conduct of research on and testing of agricultural
- 4                   products and markets;
- 5           (6) The funding of agricultural inspector positions within
- 6                   the department of agriculture;
- 7           (7) The promotion and marketing of agricultural products
- 8                   grown or raised in the State;
- 9           (8) Water quality testing and improvement; and
- 10          (9) Any other activity intended to increase agricultural
- 11                   production or processing that may lead to reduced
- 12                   importation of food, fodder, or feed from outside the
- 13                   State."

14          SECTION 3.   New statutory material is underscored.

15          SECTION 4.   This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Agricultural Development and Food Security Fund; Barrel Tax

**Description:**

Gives preference to moneys deposited into the agricultural development and food security special fund from the environmental response, energy, and food security tax for the acquisition of real property for agricultural production or processing activity. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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