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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 there are historic  
2 and recent threats to the future of agriculture in the State,  
3 including the loss of sugar and pineapple plantations and dairy  
4 farms, rising energy and feed costs, the volatility of commodity  
5 markets, mainland and global competition, and climate change.  
6 There are also many signs of expansion and opportunity,  
7 especially for diversified and specialty niche farms including  
8 organic farm operations.

9           The purpose of this Act is to establish the agricultural  
10 2030 investment program and a farm to plate program in the  
11 State.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
14 to read as follows:

15           "PART           .    **AGRICULTURAL 2030 INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

16           §141-A   **Agricultural 2030 investment program;**  
17   **establishment.** The department of agriculture, in consultation  
18 with the department of business, economic development, and



1 tourism and members of the agricultural industry, shall  
2 establish the agricultural 2030 investment program to increase  
3 agricultural economic development through strategic planning and  
4 the creation of programs such as a state farm to plate program;  
5 provided that continuation of the agricultural 2030 investment  
6 program shall be discretionary unless at least \$100,000 per  
7 fiscal year is available for the program.

8 **§141-B Program goals.** The goals of the agricultural 2030  
9 investment program are to:

- 10 (1) Increase economic development in Hawaii's food and  
11 farm sector;
- 12 (2) Create jobs in the food and farm economy;
- 13 (3) Improve access to healthy local foods; and
- 14 (4) Improve biosecurity.

15 **§141-C Strategic plan.** By December 1, 2018, the program  
16 shall create a strategic plan for agricultural economic  
17 development, including biosecurity, which may be periodically  
18 reviewed and updated based on evolving information. The  
19 strategic plan shall include the following:

- 20 (1) An inventory of Hawaii's agricultural system  
21 infrastructure as determined by existing data,



1 studies, and analysis about the components of Hawaii's  
2 agricultural economy, including:

3 (A) Types of value-added goods produced in Hawaii,  
4 number of producers of each product category,  
5 amount of each type of good produced, and  
6 financial viability of each value-added-producing  
7 sector;

8 (B) Types of agricultural value-added processors in  
9 Hawaii, how much agricultural goods produced in  
10 Hawaii are purchased by Hawaii processors, and  
11 financial viability of the value-added processors  
12 in Hawaii;

13 (C) Current and potential markets in which Hawaii  
14 food producers and processors can sell their  
15 products;

16 (D) Current infrastructure being used by agricultural  
17 producers, including but not limited to  
18 irrigation systems, processing and storage  
19 facilities, delivery infrastructure, road  
20 systems, and power;



- 1 (E) Sources of losses and mitigation measures
- 2 required to reduce losses, and increases in
- 3 production made possible due to mitigation
- 4 actions;
- 5 (F) Extent of existing agricultural lands that could
- 6 be expanded and the resources available to expand
- 7 Hawaii's agricultural production;
- 8 (G) Potential for new farmers and agricultural value-
- 9 added producers to enter the agricultural
- 10 economy, methods for new farmers to be part of
- 11 succession planning, acquire land and other farm
- 12 infrastructure, and availability and barriers to
- 13 farm and processing labor;
- 14 (H) Potential for new local products and barriers to
- 15 farms and processors entering new markets; and
- 16 (I) Other barriers reducing agricultural viability
- 17 and suggested mitigation measures;
- 18 (2) A plan for the farm to plate program established
- 19 pursuant to section 141- and a description of grant
- 20 funding to support farm to plate program marketing;



1 (3) Methods and the funding necessary to strengthen the  
2 links among producers, processors, and markets,  
3 including:

4 (A) Collaboration with the state procurement office  
5 to increase procurement of local agricultural  
6 products by state institutions;

7 (B) Collaboration with the private business sector to  
8 increase procurement of local agricultural  
9 products by businesses;

10 (C) Informing financial institutions of the  
11 information collected under paragraph (1) and  
12 encouraging the facilitation of agricultural  
13 lending; and

14 (D) Collaboration with the University of Hawaii to  
15 resolve challenges facing farmers and ranchers;  
16 and

17 (4) Recommendations regarding measurable goals that shall  
18 be tracked over the life of the program; methods for  
19 ongoing collection of data necessary to track those  
20 goals; plans for updating the program as needed; and  
21 appropriate methods to track the ongoing economic



1 contribution of the agricultural sector to the Hawaii  
2 economy.

3 **§141-D Strengthening collaboration.** The department of  
4 agriculture shall implement its plans to strengthen the links  
5 among producers, processors, and markets pursuant to the methods  
6 identified in section 141-C(3).

7 **§141-E Methods.** To accomplish the goals of the  
8 agricultural 2030 investment program, the department of  
9 agriculture may:

- 10 (1) Create an advisory panel with representatives from the  
11 agricultural and business communities;
- 12 (2) Hire or assign staff, or enter into contracts with the  
13 University of Hawaii for various tasks such as the  
14 collection of data;
- 15 (3) Seek and accept funds from private and public  
16 entities; and
- 17 (4) Utilize technical assistance, loans, grants, or other  
18 means to advance the goals of the program.

19 **§141-F Farm to plate program; establishment.** (a) There  
20 is established a farm to plate program to ensure access to local  
21 and healthy food in the State.



1 (b) The department of agriculture shall initiate the  
2 program and seek grant funding to support farm to plate direct  
3 marketing, including marketing of farmers' markets, community  
4 supported agriculture operations, and regional community food  
5 hubs."

6 SECTION 3. The department of agriculture shall submit an  
7 annual report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
8 to the convening of each regular session. The strategic plan  
9 described under section 141-C shall be included in the  
10 department's report to the legislature submitted prior to the  
11 convening of the regular session of 2018.

12 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 to  
15 establish and implement the agricultural 2030 investment program  
16 and the farm to plate program.

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

19 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section  
20 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute



1 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
2 the new sections in this Act.

3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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**Report Title:**

Agricultural 2030 Investment Program; Farm to Plate Program;  
Agricultural Development; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the department of agriculture, subject to the allocation of funding, to establish an agricultural 2030 investment program and a farm to plate program. Specifies requirements for a strategic plan. Appropriates funds to the department of agriculture to initiate the programs. (SD1)

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

