
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that consumption of fresh
2 fruit and vegetables is an integral part of a healthy diet and
3 central to the prevention of obesity and disease. Every
4 community should have adequate access to such healthy dietary
5 options; however, high cost and poor quality often make this
6 difficult.

7 The legislature further finds that, to increase access to
8 fresh fruits and vegetables for beneficiaries of the federal
9 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, some states have
10 enacted farmers' market matching incentive programs. Under such
11 programs, individuals who purchase produce at local farmers'
12 markets using their nutrition assistance benefits receive
13 additional benefits on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to a certain
14 amount.

15 The legislature further finds that farmers' market matching
16 incentive programs have not only increased access to healthy
17 dietary options for participants, but have also helped



1 invigorate local economies and address food insecurity.
2 Previous legislation introduced in Hawaii to establish such a
3 program was also supported by community and scientific groups.

4 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to require the
5 department of agriculture to develop and administer a local
6 health food incentive program promoting the purchase of fruits
7 and vegetables for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition
8 Assistance Program.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
11 and to read as follows:

12 "§141- Local health food incentive program; special
13 fund. (a) There is established a local health food incentive
14 program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition
15 Assistance Program. The program shall be developed and
16 administered by the department of agriculture.

17 (b) Under the local health food incentive program,
18 beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
19 who use food stamps to make purchases at a farmers' market and
20 other direct food retailers who participate in the Supplemental
21 Nutrition Assistance Program shall receive a dollar-for-dollar



1 match up to \$20 per month to be used exclusively for purchases
2 of fresh fruits and vegetables at a farmers' market or other
3 direct food retailer. For the purposes of this section,
4 "farmers' market" shall have the same meaning as in section
5 205-2(d)(15)(D).

6 (c) There is established within the department of
7 agriculture a local health food incentive program special fund,
8 into which shall be deposited any legislative appropriations and
9 any public or private grants, awards, or gifts for the purpose
10 of the local health food incentive program. Moneys in the
11 special fund may be expended by the department to administer the
12 program and to provide matching funds to beneficiaries.

13 (d) The department of agriculture may cooperate with
14 private organizations to develop rules for the local health food
15 incentive program."

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to be
19 deposited into the local health food incentive program special
20 fund.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the local health
2 food incentive program special fund the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for
4 administration of the local health food incentive program and to
5 provide matching funds to beneficiaries of the Supplemental
6 Nutrition Assistance Program.

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

9 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DOA; SNAP; Farmers Markets; Local Health Food Incentive Program;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Agriculture to create a local health food dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Establishes and appropriates funds into and out of the local health food incentive program special fund. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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