
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to provide creative
2 means of financing for agriculture businesses in Hawaii by:

3 (1) Establishing the agriculture accelerator program to
4 authorize the agribusiness development corporation to
5 provide moneys and invest in existing or new
6 agriculture businesses approved by the board of
7 directors of the agribusiness development corporation
8 in return for equity in those agriculture businesses;
9 and

10 (2) Establishing an agriculture accelerator special fund
11 to provide funds for the agribusiness development
12 corporation to provide moneys to and invest in
13 agriculture businesses under the agriculture
14 accelerator program.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:



1 "§163D- Agriculture accelerator program; special fund.

2 (a) There is established the agriculture accelerator program to

3 be administered by the corporation. Subject to approval by the

4 board, the corporation may provide moneys to existing or new

5 agriculture businesses that engage in farming, aquaculture, or

6 ranching activities in the State in return for one to six per

7 cent equity in the agriculture business. Moneys received by an

8 agriculture business under the program shall be used for the

9 following purposes:

10 (1) Purchasing equipment;

11 (2) Improving energy efficiency;

12 (3) Studying, planning, and constructing a new process and

13 packaging facility;

14 (4) Training in food safety technology;

15 (5) Acquiring branding and marketing support; or

16 (6) Other uses approved by the board.

17 (b) The corporation may invest in other agriculture

18 businesses under this program in return for equity in the

19 agriculture business; provided that these agriculture businesses

20 shall be approved by the board.



1 (c) There is established within the state treasury the
2 agriculture accelerator special fund. The following moneys
3 shall be deposited into the special fund:

4 (1) Any appropriation by the legislature into the special
5 fund;

6 (2) Any grant or donation made to the special fund; and

7 (3) Any interest earned on the balance of the special
8 fund.

9 Moneys in the special fund shall be used by the corporation to
10 invest in existing or new agriculture businesses under the
11 agriculture accelerator program pursuant to subsection (a).

12 (d) The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to
13 implement the purposes of this section."

14 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.



Report Title:

Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Special Fund

Description:

Establishes the agriculture accelerator program to authorize the agribusiness development corporation to invest in existing or new agriculture businesses approved by the board of directors of the ADC in return for equity in those agriculture businesses. Establishes an agriculture accelerator special fund to provide moneys that the agribusiness development corporation may invest in agriculture businesses under the agriculture accelerator program. (SD1)

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