
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO START A FARM
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, activities on Agribusiness Development Corporation
2 lands must meet the current standards for agriculture and food
3 safety best practices; and
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5 WHEREAS, farmers vary greatly in terms of fiscal resources,
6 farming experience, business acumen, and English language
7 skills; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Agribusiness Development Corporation lacks the
10 resources necessary for constant oversight and vigilance to
11 manage a diverse population of farmers; and
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13 WHEREAS, farmers may not be aware that compliance is
14 required with federal programs that ensure public health on
15 Agribusiness Development Corporation lands, including:
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17 (1) United States Department of Agriculture Good
18 Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices;
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20 (2) United States Food and Drug Administration's Food
21 Safety Modernization Act;
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23 (3) Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection
24 Act; and
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26 (4) United States Environmental Protection Agency's
27 Agricultural Worker Protection Standard; now,
28 therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of



1 Agriculture is urged to establish a farm apprenticeship program
2 that creates an efficient and effective framework or model to
3 manage farming operations through a sublease structure in which
4 a lead farmer is responsible for the actions of the farmer's
5 lessees; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the farm apprenticeship program
8 should:

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- 10 (1) Include the establishment of the lead farmer as a
- 11 single point of contact with whom the Department of
- 12 Agriculture will communicate to improve fiscal
- 13 management and communication;
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- 15 (2) Be a replicable model for expanded production;
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- 17 (3) Ensure compliance with applicable best practice
- 18 programs;
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- 20 (4) Coordinate crop selection and rotation to ensure
- 21 optimal production; and
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- 23 (5) Develop proficiency and competence among sublessees
- 24 who may move into a lead farmer position on another
- 25 parcel; and
- 26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii
28 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources; University
29 of Hawaii at Hilo College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural
30 Resource Management; Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center;
31 and Agribusiness Development Corporation are urged to support
32 the lead and lessee farmers in the farm apprenticeship program
33 with extension services that focus on technical and workforce
34 development issues, including outreach and training; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
38 Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of
39 the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Dean of the University
40 of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
41 Dean of the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Agriculture,



- 1 Forestry and Natural Resource Management; and Executive Director
- 2 of the Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center.

