
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUACULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii had an
2 innovative aquaculture development program during the 1980s and
3 1990s, initially under the department of business and economic
4 development, then under the department of land and natural
5 resources, and currently under the department of agriculture.
6 The aquaculture development program assisted prospective
7 farmers, investors, and technology companies in many ways,
8 including providing technical assistance, and help with site
9 selection and permitting, product and services marketing; and
10 perhaps most importantly, giving a strong and informed voice
11 within government in support of aquaculture as a desirable
12 industry for Hawaii. The program played a large role in
13 creating an industry that generates more than \$70,000,000
14 annually and is one of the largest sectors of Hawaii's
15 diversified agriculture. Despite its success, the aquaculture
16 development program has been reduced in staff and function. The
17 program continues to be downsized and is now subsumed with
18 livestock support services under the animal industries division



1 of the department of agriculture. It is no coincidence that
2 industry growth and Hawaii's aquaculture revenues have leveled
3 off in recent years.

4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
5 operational expenses to revitalize the aquaculture development
6 program.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000 or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the
10 revitalization of the aquaculture development program, including
11 strengthening staff expertise and capabilities to assist the
12 aquaculture industry in the following areas:

- 13 (1) Collection and dissemination of relevant information;
- 14 (2) Species and site selection;
- 15 (3) Facilitating permit acquisition;
- 16 (4) Product and technical services marketing; and
- 17 (5) Targeted research and extension services from the
18 University of Hawaii on a cost-sharing basis.

19 The department of agriculture aquaculture development
20 program shall be the lead state agency for developing
21 aquaculture in the State.



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

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



S.B. NO. 753
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

Report Title:

HDOA; Aquaculture Development Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for operational expenses for revitalizing the Aquaculture Development Program within HDOA. (CD1)

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