
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GARDENS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that school gardens
2 provide interactive, hands-on educational environments in which
3 students learn fundamental concepts about nutrition and obesity
4 prevention; composting and waste management techniques; and
5 cultural and historical aspects of the local food supply.
6 School gardens foster a better understanding and appreciation of
7 where food comes from, how food travels from the farm to the
8 table, and the important role of agriculture in the State and
9 global economy. School gardens enhance many subject areas,
10 including science, environmental education, mathematics,
11 reading, writing, art, nutrition, physical education, history,
12 and geography.

13 The legislature further finds that in addition to school
14 gardens, community gardens create welcoming and attractive
15 neighborhoods, while serving as an important outdoor
16 recreational opportunity for residents especially in the urban
17 core. Community gardens have many benefits, including the



1 promotion of healthy populations, thereby reducing public health
2 costs; the beautification of neighborhoods and public spaces,
3 which may increase property values; and the general advancement
4 of residents' health and welfare by encouraging a sense of
5 community.

6 The purpose of this Act is to authorize:

7 (1) The department of education to develop programs that
8 encourage the development of gardens on school
9 property; and

10 (2) The Hawaii community development authority to develop
11 programs that provide incentives to establish gardens
12 in housing projects, communities, and schools.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§302A- Gardening programs. Notwithstanding any other
17 law to the contrary, the department may develop programs that
18 encourage the development of gardens on school property;
19 provided that the college of tropical agriculture and human
20 resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa shall be
21 consulted regarding best practices in gardening, including



1 vertical gardening, aquaponics, and community gardening;
2 provided further that the growing of edible and native Hawaiian
3 plants shall be made a priority in the school gardens."

4 SECTION 3. Section 206E-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 " ~~[+] §206E-4.5 [] — Urban gardening~~ Gardening programs.

7 Notwithstanding any ~~[other provision of]~~ law~~[7]~~ to the contrary,
8 the authority may develop programs that provide incentives for
9 the development of ~~[housing projects that incorporate urban~~
10 ~~gardening programs;]~~ gardens in housing projects, communities,
11 and schools; provided that the college of tropical agriculture
12 and human resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa shall
13 be consulted regarding best practices in ~~[urban]~~ gardening,
14 including vertical gardening, aquaponics, and community
15 gardening."

16 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.



Report Title:

HCDA; Department of Education; School Gardens; Community Gardens

Description:

Authorizes the Department of Education to develop programs to encourage the development of gardens on school property.
Authorizes the Hawaii Community Development Authority to develop programs that provide incentives to establish gardens in housing projects, communities, and schools. (SD1)

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