
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT A WORKING GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REVITALIZING ECONOMY
AND AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE.

1 WHEREAS, for Hawaii to achieve food and energy security,
2 timely and catalytic actions must be taken to establish solid
3 'āina-connected foundations and provide viable pathways for
4 growers to succeed in expanding markets; and
5

6 WHEREAS, catalytic actions are coordinated efforts, in
7 which farming needs to be:
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- 9 (1) A priority to achieve food and energy security;
10
11 (2) Practical and a vital component of economic and
12 environmental recovery; and
13
14 (3) Profitable; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture
17 Leadership (REAL) initiative is a multi-phased, catalytic change
18 initiative that empowers Hawaii farmers to become
19 self-sustaining, for-profit businesses with local, nutritional
20 grass feedstock production and direct access to local and export
21 off-taker markets; and
22

23 WHEREAS, this multi-phased, transformative initiative
24 creates entrepreneurial businesses with industry partners;
25 provides market connections to attract capital assets to Hawaii;
26 facilitates access to a sustainable food supply and feedstock
27 for ranching; promotes clean energy, restorative and precision
28 agriculture, and environmental conservation; and provides jobs
29 for skilled agricultural technology workers; and
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1 WHEREAS, the REAL initiative is composed of members from
2 the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources
3 Conservation Service, the Department of Education, Kamehameha
4 Schools, Future Farmers of America, Hawaii Agriculture Resource
5 Center, Molokai Homestead Farmers, Lanakila Pacific, and North
6 Shore Economic Vitality Partnership; and
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8 WHEREAS, the REAL initiative is currently underway and its
9 proponents are taking necessary actions with community and
10 industry partners to stabilize Hawaii's small farming businesses
11 impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, the timing and urgency of the initiative requires
15 immediate attention, action, and collaboration from governmental
16 regulatory agencies, landowners, and industry participants, so
17 that the initiative may:
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19 (1) Singularly or collectively obtain from the Department
20 of Agriculture, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands,
21 Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the
22 University of Hawaii a fifty-year lease on certain
23 land for purposes of production infrastructure
24 expansion, including an equipment maintenance center,
25 training hub, and grass feedstock processing center;
26

27 (2) Establish a grow hub structure and operations, which
28 would include a learning center from which homestead
29 farming and ranching businesses would receive
30 technical assistance and essential wrap-around service
31 support for marketing, branding, fiscal management and
32 operational support from federal agencies (including
33 the United States Small Business Administration);
34 state agencies (including the Department of
35 Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation;
36 Department of Business, Economic Development, and
37 Tourism; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department
38 of Land and Natural Resources; and the University of
39 Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
40 Resources); non-profit organizations (including the
41 Hawaii Agriculture Research Center and Sovereign
42 Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations); and



1 private organizations, such as Kamehameha Schools and
2 energy, food, and restaurant industry organizations;
3

4 (3) Establish farmer and rancher grow hub resources to
5 increase access to local soil and water testing
6 resources, nutritional trials, researchers, and
7 entities that are necessary to meet industry timelines
8 for soil and water resource management and validation
9 and promotion of Hawaii-sourced products (including
10 the Department of Agriculture, Department of Hawaiian
11 Home Lands, University of Hawaii College of Tropical
12 Agriculture and Human Resources, and Hawaii
13 Agriculture Research Center); and
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15 (4) Coordinate and access assistance from state agencies
16 to support the successful implementation and
17 diversification of state economic development into
18 restorative agriculture and the ecosystem management
19 of land, water, and the environment; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the Chairperson of the
24 Hawaiian Homes Commission, or the Chairperson's designee, is
25 requested to convene and serve as the chair of a Revitalizing
26 Economy and Agriculture Leadership working group; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals or
29 their designees are requested to serve as members of the
30 Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership working group:
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32 (1) The Administrator of the United States Small Business
33 Administration;
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35 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture;
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37 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
38 Resources;
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40 (4) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
41 Tourism;
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- 1 (5) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the
- 2 Agribusiness Development Corporation;
- 3
- 4 (6) The Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative
- 5 Extension at the University of Hawaii College of
- 6 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
- 7
- 8 (7) The Mayor of each of the counties; provided that if
- 9 any Mayor declines to be a member of the working group
- 10 and declines to appoint a designee to the working
- 11 group, the Chairperson of the respective County
- 12 Council or the Chairperson's designee is requested to
- 13 serve on the working group;
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- 15 (8) The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Kamehameha
- 16 Schools;
- 17
- 18 (9) The President of the Hawaii Agriculture Research
- 19 Center;
- 20
- 21 (10) The Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
- 22 Homestead Associations;
- 23
- 24 (11) A representative for agricultural homesteaders not
- 25 represented by the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
- 26 Homestead Associations, selected by the Chairperson of
- 27 the Hawaiian Homes Commission; and
- 28
- 29 (12) Representatives of energy, food, and restaurant
- 30 industry organizations invited by the chair of the
- 31 working group; and
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- 33 (13) Other stakeholders who may be invited by the chair of
- 34 the working group; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Revitalizing Economy and
 37 Agriculture Leadership working group is requested to consider
 38 and develop recommendations regarding the implementation of the
 39 Revitalizing Economy and Agriculture Leadership initiative; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
 42 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,



1 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
2 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
3 of 2022; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved
6 on June 30, 2022; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the
10 United States Small Business Administration; Chairperson of the
11 Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of
12 the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Director of Business,
13 Economic Development, and Tourism; Chairperson of the Hawaiian
14 Homes Commission; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
15 Resources; Dean and Director for Research and Cooperative
16 Extension at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical
17 Agriculture and Human Resources; Mayor of the City and County of
18 Honolulu; Mayor of the County of Maui; Mayor of the County of
19 Hawaii; Mayor of the County of Kauai; Chairperson of the
20 Honolulu City Council; Chairperson of the Maui County Council;
21 Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council; Chairperson of the
22 Kauai County Council; Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of
23 Kamehameha Schools; President of the Hawaii Agriculture Research
24 Center; and Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian
25 Homestead Associations.
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