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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES TO CONSULT WITH HAWAII  
SMALL SCALE FARMERS, HAWAII SMALL SCALE PRODUCERS, AND  
AFFECTED PARTIES ON THE OFFSETTING OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT.

1           WHEREAS, the State supports Hawaii's farmers and seeks to  
2 create connections to food security and locally grown products  
3 for the health and well-being of communities and economic  
4 stability for producers; and  
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6           WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes the important role  
7 that agriculture, food, and nutrition play in the social and  
8 economic well-being of local communities; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the State has a responsibility to ensure that  
11 communities have access to healthy, nutritious food; and  
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13           WHEREAS, on January 4, 2011, the Food Safety Modernization  
14 Act was signed into law to better protect public health by  
15 strengthening the food system; and  
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17           WHEREAS, in January 2013, the Food and Drug Administration  
18 published Produce Safety and Preventive Control Rules to  
19 implement the Food Safety Modernization Act, in addition to six  
20 proposed rules under the Food Safety Modernization Act, all  
21 without meaningful consultation with the citizens of Hawaii,  
22 particularly Hawaii small scale farmers; and  
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24           WHEREAS, many Hawaii small scale farmers are bound by  
25 contract to use the land they lease for the purpose of farming  
26 or ranching, and they will be particularly vulnerable to costs  
27 associated with conforming to the standards outlined in the Food  
28 Safety Modernization Act; and  
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30           WHEREAS, the Food Safety Modernization Act will have a  
31 significant and direct impact on more than ninety per cent of



1 Hawaii's farmers who generate less than \$500,000 per year in  
2 adjusted gross income; and

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4 WHEREAS, many Hawaii farms are at risk if exposed to  
5 further financial burdens because farming expenditures,  
6 including land, lease costs, water, labor, feed, fertilizer, and  
7 energy, are more expensive in Hawaii than in most areas of the  
8 continental United States; and

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10 WHEREAS, the required regulatory cost analysis issued by  
11 the Food and Drug Administration when drafting and publishing  
12 rules to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act does not  
13 take into consideration the unique cost burdens applicable to  
14 these island farmers; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
18 Session of 2015, that the federal Food and Drug Administration,  
19 state Department of Agriculture, and state Department of  
20 Hawaiian Home Lands are requested to participate in meaningful  
21 consultation with Hawaii small scale farmers, Hawaii small scale  
22 producers, and affected parties to find ways to provide  
23 financial relief to offset the costs associated with the  
24 implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act so that  
25 Hawaii's small farmers are able to maintain viable farm  
26 operations; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Resolution be transmitted to the federal Commissioner of Food  
30 and Drugs, the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, the  
31 Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, and Hawaii's  
32 congressional delegation.

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[Signature] OFFERED BY: Lyn De Cote

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# H.R. NO. 147

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MAR 13 2015

