
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that as the demand for
2 unskilled labor increases, farmers and ranchers are searching
3 for ways to use technology to better operate their farms. These
4 farmers and ranchers could greatly benefit from foreign
5 technology like small equipment tractors from Japan. However,
6 they are unable to import that equipment because it does not
7 comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's
8 emission standards.

9 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
10 college of tropical agriculture and human resources at the
11 University of Hawaii at Manoa to work in collaboration with a
12 University of Hawaii community college for a pilot program to
13 identify and purchase foreign agricultural technology and
14 equipment, including small equipment tractors and retrofit
15 engines, that will benefit the State's farmers and ranchers and
16 that complies with the United States Environmental Protection
17 Agency's emission standards.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
4 establish the foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program,
5 in collaboration with a University of Hawaii community college,
6 to:

- 7 (1) Identify and purchase foreign agricultural technology
8 and equipment, including but not limited to small
9 equipment tractors and retrofit engines, that will
10 benefit the State's farmers and ranchers and comply
11 with the United States Environmental Protection
12 Agency's emission standards;
- 13 (2) Establish contact with manufacturers of small
14 equipment in Japan and other countries;
- 15 (3) Work with the United States Environmental Protection
16 Agency to identify Environmental Protection Agency
17 standards and compliance requirements for small
18 foreign agricultural equipment;
- 19 (4) Collaborate with agricultural professionals from
20 foreign countries on management practices;



1 (5) Bring harvesting, weed management, and field
2 preparation machinery into the State for evaluation;

3 (6) Conduct on-farm trials to evaluate the efficacy and
4 applicability to multiple growing systems, such as
5 wetland conventional, organic, and forage crops,
6 statewide; and

7 (7) Conduct education and training workshops statewide to
8 update agriculture producers on available technology.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
10 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 3. The dean of the college of tropical agriculture
12 and human resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa shall
13 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
14 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
15 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
16 2023 on the progress of the foreign agriculture small equipment
17 pilot program.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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H.B. NO. 1717 H.D. 1

Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Foreign Agriculture Small Equipment; Pilot Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to establish a foreign agriculture small equipment pilot program. Requires a report to the legislature. (HD1)

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