
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO EXAMINE EXISTING
LAWS RELATED TO THE SUGAR AND PINEAPPLE INDUSTRIES AND
DETERMINE WHETHER UPDATES SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE
UTILIZATION OF DIVERSIFIED CROPS.

1 WHEREAS, the downsizing of the sugar and pineapple
2 industries presented an unprecedented opportunity for the
3 conversion of agriculture into a dynamic growth industry; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State is able to use public agricultural lands
6 to enhance the local economy, provide employment opportunities,
7 decrease reliance on imported agricultural products, and provide
8 more sources of locally grown food for residents; and
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10 WHEREAS, a valuable inventory of supporting infrastructure
11 including irrigation systems, roads, drainage systems,
12 processing facilities, workshops, and warehouses that are still
13 largely underutilized was left vacant by the downsizing of the
14 sugar and pineapple industries; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Agribusiness Development Corporation was
17 established in 1994 to facilitate and provide direction for the
18 transition of Hawaii's agriculture industry from a dominance of
19 sugar and pineapple to one composed of a diversity of different
20 crops; and
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22 WHEREAS, the Agribusiness Development Corporation is tasked
23 with coordinating and administering programs to assist
24 agricultural enterprises to facilitate the transition of
25 agricultural infrastructure from plantation operations into
26 other agricultural enterprises, increasing local production of
27 agricultural products for local consumption, reducing the
28 State's reliance on imported agricultural products, and



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1 increasing access to farmland and related infrastructure for
2 small local farmers and cooperatives; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
7 Agriculture is requested to examine existing laws related to the
8 sugar and pineapple industries and determine whether updates
9 should be made for the utilization of diversified crops; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
12 is requested to submit a report of its findings and
13 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
14 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
15 the Regular Session of 2024; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
19 Board of Agriculture and Executive Director of the Agribusiness
20 Development Corporation.

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OFFERED BY:

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