JAN 1 9 2007

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

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

1	SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2	adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3	as follows:
4	"CHAPTER
5	AGRICULTURAL LAND SALE DISCLOSURES
6	§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
7	context clearly requires otherwise:
8	"Agricultural land" means any land that is classified in
9	the agricultural district pursuant to chapter 205.
10	"Disclosure statement" means a written statement prepared
11	and in a form prescribed by the land use commission that fully
12	and accurately sets forth the permitted uses and restrictions or
13	the uses of land in the agricultural district pursuant to
14	sections 205-4.5 and 205-4.6.
15	§ -2 Applicability. This chapter shall apply to any
16	sale of agricultural lands. The failure of the seller or the
17	seller's agent to comply with this chapter shall not affect the
18	validity of the title to any agricultural land sold.



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-3 Prohibitions on sales of agricultural lands.
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2
    Except as provided in section -4, no seller may sell
    agricultural land unless:
3
4
             Prior to the sale of the agricultural land, a
         (1)
5
              disclosure statement is:
                   Signed and dated by the seller within six months
6
              (A)
7
                   before or ten calendar days after the acceptance
8
                   of a real estate purchase contract by the buyer;
9
                   and
                   Delivered to the buyer as provided in section
10
              (B)
                        -5;
11
              The buyer acknowledges receipt of the disclosure
12
         (2)
13
              statement on the real estate purchase contract, or in
14
              any addendum attached to the contract, or in a
              separate document; and
15
              The buyer is afforded the opportunity to examine the
16
         (3)
17
              disclosure statement as provided in section
18
         S
             -4 Exemptions. This chapter shall not apply to the
19
    following sales of agricultural land:
20
              Sale to a co-owner;
         (1)
21
         (2)
              Sale to a spouse, parent, or child of the seller;
              Sale by devise, descent, or court order;
22
         (3)
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1	(4)	Sale by operation of law, including, but not limited
2		to, any transfer by foreclosure, bankruptcy, or
3		partition, or any transfer to a seller's creditor
4		incident to a deed (or assignment) in lieu of
5		foreclosure, workout, or the settlement or partial
6		settlement of any preexisting obligation of a seller
7		owed a creditor and any later sale of residential real
8		property by such creditor; and
9	(5)	Sale by a lessor to a lessee resulting from conversion
10		of leased land to fee simple.
11	§ ·	-5 Delivery of disclosure statement to buyer;
12	procedure	s. (a) No later than ten calendar days from
13	acceptance	e of a real estate purchase contract, the seller,
14	either di	rectly or through the seller's agent, shall provide the
15	disclosure	e statement to the buyer.
16	(b)	Upon receipt of the disclosure statement, the buyer
17	shall have	e fifteen calendar days to:
18	(1)	Examine the disclosure statement; and
19	(2)	Decide whether to rescind the real estate purchase
20	4.	contract.
21	If th	ne buyer decides to rescind the real estate purchase
22	contract,	the buyer shall deliver, to the seller directly or
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- 1 through the seller's agent within the fifteen-day period,
- 2 written notification of the buyer's decision to rescind the real
- 3 estate purchase contract. Failure to deliver the written
- 4 notification to the seller within the fifteen-day period shall
- 5 be deemed an acceptance of the disclosure statement.
- 6 (c) The seller and buyer may agree in writing to reduce or
- 7 extend the time period provided for the delivery or examination
- 8 and rescission period. The form of the receipt for the
- 9 disclosure statement required by section -3(2) shall provide
- 10 that the buyer has the right to examine the disclosure statement
- 11 and to rescind the real estate purchase contract in accordance
- 12 with this section.
- 13 § -6 Remedies; voidable contracts. (a) A buyer may
- 14 elect to complete the purchase of the agricultural land even if
- 15 the seller fails to comply with the requirements of this
- 16 chapter. After recordation of the sale of agricultural land, a
- 17 buyer shall have no right under this chapter to rescind the real
- 18 estate purchase contract despite the seller's failure to comply
- 19 with the requirements of this chapter.
- 20 (b) If the buyer is provided a disclosure statement
- 21 prepared and delivered in accordance with this chapter and the
- 22 buyer decides to rescind the real estate purchase contract, the



- 1 buyer shall not be entitled to any damages but shall be entitled
- 2 to the immediate return of all deposits.
- 3 (c) In addition to the rights of rescission granted to the
- 4 buyer under this chapter, if the seller negligently fails to
- 5 provide the disclosure statement required by this chapter, the
- 6 seller shall be liable to the buyer for the amount of the actual
- 7 damages, if any, suffered as a result of the seller's
- 8 negligence.
- 9 (d) In addition to the remedies allowed under subsection
- 10 (b) or (c), a court may also award the prevailing party
- 11 attorney's fees, court costs, and administrative fees.
- 12 § -7 Rescission. Notwithstanding anything to the
- 13 contrary in this chapter, any action for rescission brought
- 14 under this chapter shall commence prior to the recorded sale of
- 15 the real property.
- 16 § -8 Limitation of actions. (a) Any action brought
- 17 under this chapter shall commence within two years from the date
- 18 the buyer received the disclosure statement; provided that if no
- 19 disclosure statement was delivered to the buyer, then the action
- 20 shall commence within two years of the recorded sale of the
- 21 agricultural land.



- 1 (b) This chapter supersedes all other laws relating to the
- 2 time for commencement of actions for failure to make the
- 3 disclosures required by this chapter.
- 4 § -9 Other disclosures. The provisions of this chapter
- 5 shall not relieve or release a seller or a seller's agent of any
- 6 other requirements of disclosure with regard to a sale of real
- 7 property, including but not limited to the provisions contained
- 8 in chapter 508D.
- 9 § -10 Preparation of disclosure form. The land use
- 10 commission shall prepare the disclosure statement form described
- 11 in section 1 and make it available to the real estate commission
- 12 and owners of agricultural lands described in section 1."
- 13 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 15 begun, before its effective date, and shall have no effect on
- 16 any real estate sales contract that was fully executed and
- 17 delivered prior to the effective date of this Act.
- 18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,
- 19 provided that section 1 shall take effect on September 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Jung L. How

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#### Report Title:

Agricultural Lands; Sale Disclosures

### Description:

Requires seller or seller's agent to provide buyer with disclosure of permitted uses and prohibited uses or activities on agricultural lands prior to sale.