
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 Hawaii must
2 diversify its economic base beyond tourism. A revived state
3 agriculture industry holds a promise of not only diversifying
4 Hawaii's economy, but also improving the food security of our
5 isolated islands and preserving the green space and lifestyle
6 that Hawaii's citizens and visitors value.

7 Hawaii's agriculture and value-added products contribute
8 \$2,400,000,000 to the State's economy and employ more than
9 thirty-eight thousand people. During the past twenty years,
10 diversified agriculture in Hawaii has more than doubled. The
11 prime agricultural lands released from sugar and pineapple
12 production present a rare window of opportunity to further
13 agricultural development and address the food security needs of
14 the state.

15 The legislature further finds that for Hawaii's agriculture
16 to take advantage of this opportunity, it must produce safe,
17 high-quality, and market-driven products that offset Hawaii's



1 high costs of land, labor, water, and transportation. Hawaii's
2 food and agricultural producers and processors must produce
3 foods that are safe and nutritious by following established good
4 agricultural practices (GAP) and being GAP certified. There is
5 also a need for assistance in developing value-added processed
6 foods that would assist entrepreneurs to develop new products
7 that use Hawaii grown produce. There is a need for a local
8 facility to provide assistance for sensory evaluations of food,
9 as well as appropriate packaging and marketing advice. Thus, a
10 food innovation and security center is necessary to help address
11 the food safety and security needs of Hawaii.

12 The University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture
13 and human resources is engaged in several areas of research and
14 outreach that have already contributed to the resurgence of
15 agriculture in Hawaii. The college's contributions to the
16 State's agricultural industry include:

- 17 (1) Identification and development of high-value food,
18 plant, and fiber products to help Hawaii stay
19 competitive in a global market; and
- 20 (2) Creation of an agribusiness incubator that helps start
21 agribusinesses and assists existing agribusinesses to
22 expand.



1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
2 University of Hawaii to enable the college of tropical
3 agriculture and human resources to develop a long range plan for
4 a food innovation and security center for the development and
5 promotion of new, safe, high-quality, high-value agricultural
6 products.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000, or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
10 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
11 2008-2009, for the college of tropical agriculture and human
12 resources to develop a long range plan for a food innovation and
13 security center.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
15 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



S.B. NO. 835
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Report Title:

Food Innovation and Security Center; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to develop a long range plan for a food innovation and security center for the development and promotion of safe, high-quality, and high-value agricultural products.
(SB835 HD1)

