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**HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION
POLICIES**

**ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF
DELEGATES**

**HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION
64th ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 19th - 20th, 2011
HILO HAWAIIAN HOTEL
HILO, HAWAII**

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1 **PURPOSE OF FARM BUREAU**

2

3 THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION IS A GRASS ROOTS NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
4 FOUNDED BY HAWAII FARMERS AND RANCHERS AND WORKING WITH ORGANIZATIONS,
5 COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY IN
6 HAWAII. THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION IS ORGANIZED TO UNIFY THE COUNTY FARM
7 BUREAUS, THEREBY ENHANCING THE KNOWLEDGE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, PROSPERITY, WELL
8 BEING AND HAPPINESS OF ITS MEMBERS; TO ANALYZE AND RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT FACE
9 AGRICULTURE THROUGH EFFECTIVE COOPERATION, PLANNING AND REPRESENTATION; TO
10 PROMOTE FARMERS' AND RANCHERS' ACCESS TO THE PHYSICAL, FINANCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND
11 HUMAN RESOURCES NECESSARY FOR SUCCESSFUL AND PROFITABLE AGRICULTURE; AND TO
12 ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND HEALTH OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES AND THE
13 ENVIRONMENT TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE; FARM BUREAU IS LOCAL, STATEWIDE, NATIONAL AND
14 INTERNATIONAL IN ITS SCOPE OF CONCERN AND INFLUENCE. FARM BUREAU IS NONPARTISAN,
15 NONSECTARIAN AND NONSECRET IN CHARACTER. WE ARE THE VOICE OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURE
16 AT ALL LEVELS.

17

18 **PREAMBLE**

19

20 WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, ARE PROUD OF OUR ORGANIZATION
21 AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT IS MAKING TO OUR STATE AND NATIONAL ECONOMIES AND TO OUR
22 SOCIAL WELL BEING. ABUNDANT PRODUCTION ON OUR FARMS IS A PUBLIC ASSET, AND WE SHALL
23 CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR GOAL OF A WELL-FED AND PEACEFUL WORLD.
24 VOLUME OF PRODUCTION CANNOT BE RELIED UPON AS THE ONLY MEANS OF ATTAINING A
25 REASONABLE INCOME. SOUND STATE AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS MUST ENABLE AGRICULTURE TO
26 RECEIVE A FAIR RETURN FOR ITS EFFORTS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT EFFICIENCY IN FARMING, AS IN
27 ANY OTHER PRODUCTIVE ENTERPRISE, HAS MUCH BEARING ON THE LEVEL OF NET INCOME AND
28 WELL BEING OF INDIVIDUAL FARMERS. WE ARE IN AN AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION, WHICH CALLS
29 FOR THE ADOPTION OF BETTER MACHINERY, NEW AND IMPROVED VARIETIES OF CROPS, BETTER
30 BRED AND FED LIVESTOCK, BETTER FARM MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND COOPERATIVE

1 ASSOCIATIONS AS A MEANS OF REDUCING COSTS OF PURCHASING FARM SUPPLIES AND MARKETING
2 PRODUCTS. THE CONSERVATION OF OUR SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES IS ESSENTIAL TO THE
3 WELFARE OF ALL SEGMENTS OF OUR SOCIETY, AND IS, THEREFORE, AN OBLIGATION OF THE PUBLIC.
4 CONTINUING TO WORK FOR A HEALTHLY STATE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY, BY PROMOTING WITHOUT
5 QUALIFICATION ALL STYLES AND TYPES OF PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE, HOLDS THE PROMISE OF
6 NOT ONLY DIVERSIFYING HAWAII'S ECONOMY, BUT ALSO INCREASING HAWAII'S FOOD
7 SUSTAINABILITY, PRESERVING THE GREEN SPACE AND LIFESTYLE THAT HAWAII'S CITIZENS AND
8 VISITORS VALUE, AND MEETING ITS CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE TO "CONSERVE AND PROTECT
9 AGRICULTURAL LANDS, PROMOTE DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURE, INCREASE AGRICULTURAL SELF
10 SUFFICIENCY AND ASSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF AGRICULTURALLY SUITABLE LANDS." (HAWAII
11 STATE CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE XI, SECTION 3)

12

13 WE AFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE, WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL
14 AND A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

15

16 **MISSION STATEMENT**

17

18 THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, SERVING AS HAWAII'S VOICE OF AGRICULTURE PROTECTS,
19 ADVOCATES, AND ADVANCES THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL INTEREST OF OUR
20 DIVERSE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

21

22 **UNITY IN AGRICULTURE**

23

24 COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MUST EXIST AMONG ALL AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS
25 TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE. WE SHALL ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF IMPROVING
26 THIS COOPERATION. IN DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO COMMODITY PROBLEMS, EVERY EFFORT
27 SHOULD BE MADE TO UNIFY AGRICULTURE'S STRENGTH, WHILE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY PROBLEMS
28 OFTEN REQUIRE VARIED APPROACHES FOR THEIR SOLUTION, EVERY APPROACH CARRIES WITH IT
29 THE OBLIGATION TO CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF A PARTICULAR ACTION ON THE WHOLE OF

1 AGRICULTURE. TO THIS END, THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION WILL AT ALL TIMES WORK
2 COOPERATIVELY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY TO ATTAIN AGRICULTURE'S GOALS.

3
4 WE SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND ACTION THAT INCREASE CO-EXISTENCE AND UNDERSTANDING
5 AMONG FARMERS WHETHER THEY USE ORGANIC, NATURAL, CONVENTIONAL OR BIOTECH
6 PROCESSES, AND ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CROP SPECIFIC BEST AGRICULTURAL
7 PRACTICES.

8

9 **FARM BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES**

10

11 THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION'S HOUSE OF DELEGATES IS TO SET
12 POLICIES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE FEDERATION. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FEDERATION'S
13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS TO IMPLEMENT THESE POLICIES. WE SUPPORT MEMBERSHIP
14 DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION, THROUGH BETTER COMMUNICATION AND INCREASED MEMBER
15 BENEFITS SUCH AS INSURANCE, MEMBER DISCOUNTS, INFORMATION ON FARM LABOR SERVICES,
16 AND OTHER MEMBER EDUCATION. LISTS OF BENEFITS SHALL BE SENT ANNUALLY.

17

18 **STATE AND NATIONAL FARM POLICIES**

19

20 WE SUPPORT MARKET-ORIENTED AGRICULTURE. WE BELIEVE THAT MARKET-ORIENTED
21 AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST EFFICIENT MEANS OF PRODUCING FOOD AND FIBER, AND PROVIDES
22 FARMERS WITH THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY FOR ECONOMIC WELL BEING. THIS MEANS THAT
23 FARMERS AND RANCHERS MUST BE GRANTED THE FREEDOM TO PRODUCE AT A PROFIT. MARKET-
24 ORIENTED FARM POLICIES EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED SHOULD MAXIMIZE AGRICULTURAL
25 EFFICIENCY AND INCREASE FARM PROFIT THROUGH:

26

- 27 1. ASSURANCE OF UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO DOMESTIC AND WORLD MARKETS SO FARMERS
28 CAN RECEIVE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE MARKET PRICES;
- 29 2. PROGRAMS TO HELP FARMERS OBTAIN NEEDED CROP AND MARKET INFORMATION,
30 RESEARCH, EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AND CREDIT;

1 AS OUR POPULATION INCREASES THERE ARE INCREASED COMPETING USES OF AGRICULTURALLY
2 ZONED LANDS. WE ADVOCATE PUBLIC POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS WHICH PROVIDE
3 FOR VIABLE FARMING AND RANCHING ACTIVITIES ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS AND THEREBY RETAIN
4 AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. VIABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS CONTRIBUTE TO
5 THE BEAUTY OF OUR LANDSCAPE AND PROVIDE AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH WE CHERISH. LANDS
6 CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING VIABLE AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND KEPT IN
7 AGRICULTURE. THESE LANDS SHOULD BE REGUARDED AS A BIOSECURITY RESERVE (CONCEPT
8 INCLUDING FOOD, FIBER, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION) COMPARABLE IN STATUS
9 AND IMPORTANCE TO EXISTING WATER AND WILDLIFE RESERVES. WE SUPPORT:

- 10
- 11 1. PROMOTING THE RETENTION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN BLOCKS OF CONTIGUOUS, INTACT,
12 AND FUNCTIONAL LAND UNITS LARGE ENOUGH TO ALLOW FLEXIBILITY IN AGRICULTURAL
13 PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT;
 - 14 2. DISCOURAGING THE FRAGMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS WHERE THE LIKELY EFFECT
15 IS THE CONVERSION OF THESE LANDS TO NON AGRICULTURAL USES. WHEN CONSIDERING
16 WHETHER TO SUPPORT OR OPPOSE A PROPOSED LAND USE CHANGE, THE FEDERATION
17 SHALL SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THE AFFECTED COUNTY;
 - 18 3. DIRECTING NONAGRICULTURAL USES AND ACTIVITIES FROM AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO
19 OTHER AREAS AND ENSURE THAT USES ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS ARE ACTUAL
20 AGRICULTURAL USES;
 - 21 4. LIMITING PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS ON IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL
22 LANDS TO MAINTAIN AFFORDABILITY OF THESE LANDS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES;
 - 23 5. PROVIDING A BASIC LEVEL OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS
24 AND ESPECIALLY ON IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS LIMITED TO THE MINIMUM
25 NECESSARY TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL USES AND ACTIVITIES;
 - 26 6. FACILITATING LONG-TERM DEDICATION OF IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR FUTURE
27 AGRICULTURAL USE THROUGH THE USE OF INCENTIVES;
 - 28 7. FACILITATING FARMERS ACCESS TO AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR LONG-TERM VIABLE
29 AGRICULTURAL USE;

- 1 8. PROMOTING THE MAINTENANCE OF ESSENTIAL AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS,
2 INCLUDING IRRIGATION SYSTEMS;
- 3 9. A HEALTHY DIVERSIFIED BASE FOR THE STATE WOULD REQUIRE THAT SOME AGRICULTURAL
4 LANDS BE REDESIGNATED FOR USE IN HOUSING, INDUSTRY AND RECREATION. SUCH
5 DESIGNATIONS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO LANDS WITH LOW AGRICULTURAL VALUE;
- 6 10. LANDOWNERS AND LESSEES OF PUBLIC LANDS HAVE INHERENT RIGHTS TO QUIET
7 POSSESSION AND USE OF THEIR PROPERTY, REGARDING EMINENT DOMAIN, AND THESE
8 RIGHTS SHOULD BE PRESERVED. WE OPPOSE ANY GOVERNMENTAL ACTION WHICH
9 INFRINGES ON THESE RIGHTS;
- 10 11. LANDS ZONED FOR AGRICULTURE TO BE PRIMARILY USED FOR PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL
11 PURPOSES; LOT UNITS SHOULD BE OF SUFFICIENT SIZE TO PRODUCE A LIVELIHOOD FOR A
12 FARM FAMILY. GOVERNMENT POLICIES SHOULD STRONGLY RESTRICT AGRICULTURALLY
13 ZONED LAND TO THAT PURPOSE;
- 14 12. PUBLIC AGENCIES HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR BUILDING NECESSARY FENCING WHEN PUBLIC
15 IMPROVEMENTS ARE CONSTRUCTED THROUGH OR ADJACENT TO PRIVATE LANDS. WHERE
16 FENCING IS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, COSTS SHOULD BE SHARED ACCORDINGLY;
- 17 13. AGRICULTURAL SUBDIVISIONS SHOULD FEATURE A CONCENTRATION OF LIVING UNITS IN
18 COMPACT AREAS WHILE PRESERVING THE BULK OF LAND FOR FARMING OPERATIONS;
- 19 14. BUFFER ZONE CRITERIA THAT PROTECT AGRICULTURE PRODUCERS FROM NON
20 AGRICULTURAL USES;
- 21 15. ASSISTANCE BY FARM BUREAU IN LOCATING AND ORGANIZING COOPERATIVE GROUPS OF
22 FARMERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO BUY BLOCKS OF LAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

24 **2. PUBLIC LANDS**

25
26 THE STATE OF HAWAII AND ITS COUNTIES ARE AMONG THE LARGEST LANDOWNERS IN HAWAII AND
27 HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THAT PUBLIC LAND IS USED IN A PRUDENT MANNER FOR
28 THE BENEFIT OF ALL RESIDENTS. THE STATE AND COUNTIES PROVIDE A LARGE SHARE OF LANDS IN
29 AGRICULTURAL USE AND SHOULD MANAGE THESE LANDS WITH THE FOLLOWING GOALS:
30

- 1 1. LANDS PRESENTLY SUITABLE FOR VIABLE AGRICULTURAL USE SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE
2 FOR THAT PURPOSE.
- 3 2. LANDS NOT PRESENTLY LEASED BUT POSSESSING POTENTIAL FOR AGRICULTURAL
4 PRODUCTION SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS WITH DUE
5 CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO CONSERVATION GOALS OF THE STATE.
- 6 3. LEASES SHOULD BE OF SUFFICIENT TERM TO JUSTIFY IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRED OF THE
7 LAND.
- 8 4. LEASE RENTS SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE PAYMENT ABILITY OF THE
9 AGRICULTURAL USE.
- 10 5. AGRICULTURAL PARKS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED WHERE NEEDED AND FEASIBLE.
- 11 6. LEASES OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS SHOULD BE MADE ONLY TO QUALIFIED FARMERS AND
12 RANCHERS.

14 **3. CONSERVATION**

15
16 CONSERVATION OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES SHOULD BE A PRIMARY GOAL OF ALL
17 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. COUNTIES SHOULD ESTABLISH
18 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS TO PROTECT THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF WATER.
19

20 **4. WATER**

21
22 PROPER ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE WATER RESOURCES IS A PRIORITY MATTER. AGRICULTURE HAS
23 HISTORICALLY BEEN THE MAJOR DEVELOPER AND USER OF WATER IN HAWAII, BUT THE RAPID
24 GROWTH OF DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL USES HAS DIMINISHED THE WATER AVAILABLE TO
25 AGRICULTURE. THE STATE'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS MUST BE PROVIDED ADEQUATE WATER
26 RESOURCES, AND, TO THIS END, THE FOLLOWING ARE REQUIRED:
27

- 28 1. AGGRESSIVE POLICIES AND PROJECTS THAT RESULT IN NEW SOURCES OF WATER FOR
29 AGRICULTURE. THE STATE AND COUNTIES SHOULD ASSUME AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE
30 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE FACILITIES. WHERE DECLINING

1 SUGAR AND PINEAPPLE ACREAGE HAS MADE PRIVATE WATER SYSTEMS AVAILABLE, THE
2 STATE SHOULD INSURE THAT SUCH SYSTEMS ARE ADEQUATELY MAINTAINED.

3 2. AGRICULTURE SHOULD BE GRANTED EQUAL LEGAL STANDING WITH OTHER PUBLIC TRUST
4 USES OF BOTH SURFACE AND GROUND WATER.

5 3. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS SHOULD USE WATER IN THE WISEST POSSIBLE MANNER WITH
6 HEAVY EMPHASIS ON CONSERVATION.

7 4. WHERE COMBINED DOMESTIC AND AGRICULTURAL WATER SYSTEMS EXIST EFFORTS SHOULD
8 BE MADE TO ESTABLISH AFFORDABLE AGRICULTURAL WATER RATES.

9 5. THE STATE SHOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT TO LOCAL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE
10 PURPOSE OF LOWERING AGRICULTURAL WATER RATES TO LEVELS WHICH WOULD ENSURE
11 THE VIABILITY OF FARMING.

12 6. WHERE THE AGRICULTURAL USE OF RECYCLED MUNICIPAL WATER IS REQUIRED, THAT
13 WATER SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AT A LOWER COST THAN NON-RECYCLED WATER.

14 7. THE POSSIBLITY OF FORMING FARMERS' COOPERATIVES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WATER
15 SOURCES SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED.

16 8. THEFT OF WATER FROM IRRIGATION SYSTEMS SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED AND PROSECUTED

17 9. COUNTY BOARDS OF WATER SUPPLY SHOULD ASSUME AN ACTIVE ROLE IN DEVELOPING
18 SOURCES OF IRRIGATION WATER FOR AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

19 10. AGRICULTURAL LANDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE LANDS DESIGNATED AS IMPORTANT
20 AGRICULTUAL LANDS SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE WATER
21 SUPPLIES.

22 23 **SECTION II**

24 **MONETARY AND TAXATION**

25 26 **1. GENERAL**

27
28 STATE TAX AND MONETARY POLICIES SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INITIATIVE,
29 TO HELP STABILIZE FARM ECONOMICS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII, TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT AND
30 ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TO DISTRIBUTE THE TAX BURDEN EQUITABLY. FURTHER, SUCH POLICY

1 SHOULD BE USED BY THE STATE, WHEN APPROPRIATE, TO ENCOURAGE AGRICULTURAL
2 PRODUCTION AND EXPANSION.

3

4 **2. EXCISE TAX**

5

6 THE PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES BY COMMERCIAL FARMERS IN THE STATE SHOULD
7 REMAIN SUBJECT TO THE WHOLESALE EXCISE TAX RATE. THE RETAIL EXCISE TAX RATES SHOULD
8 NOT BE LEVIED ON THE PURCHASE OF FOOD. WE SUPPORT THE EXEMPTION OF EXCISE TAX ON
9 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.

10

11 **3. FUEL TAXES**

12

13 WE OPPOSE ANY EFFORT TO RAISE REVENUE WITH AN IMPOSITION OF OFF- HIGHWAY FUEL AND OIL
14 TAXES. WE OPPOSE THE IMPOSITION OF CARBON EMISSION RELATED TAXES OR FEES WHICH
15 WOULD INCREASE THE COST OF FUELS AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INPUTS FOR FARMERS. WE ARE
16 NOT OPPOSING TAXES TARGETED AT FINANCING AG RELATED BENEFITS.

17

18 **4. ESTATE TAXES**

19

20 WE FAVOR A TOTAL PHASE-OUT OF FEDERAL AND STATE ESTATE TAXES AS THEY IMPACT FAMILY
21 FARMS.

22

23 **5. TAXATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

24

25 ALL AGRICULTURAL LANDS SHOULD BE ASSESSED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR "VALUE IN SUCH USE"
26 AND NOT ON THE BASIS OF "HIGHEST AND BEST USE". AGRICULTURAL OR CONSERVATION LANDS
27 SET ASIDE FOR TREE PLANTING, NATIVE FOREST, OR OTHER SIMILAR SOIL CONSERVATION USES
28 SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE TAXED AT AGRICULTURAL VALUES AND RATES. SUCH PLANTING SHOULD
29 BE BASED ON VALID SOIL CONSERVATION PLANS. THE PROGRAM OF DEDICATION OF SUCH LANDS

1 FOR AGRICULTURAL USES SHOULD CONTINUE BUT SHOULD BE CLOSELY ADMINISTERED TO
2 INCLUDE ONLY BONAFIDE FARMING OPERATIONS FOR PROFIT.

3

4 **6. POLLUTION CONTROL EXPENSES**

5

6 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL SHOULD BE TREATED AS CURRENT EXPENSES.

7

8

SECTION III

9

TRANSPORTATION

10

11 **1. GENERAL TRANSPORTATION**

12

13 WE SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUND, LONG-RANGE STATE AND COUNTY TRANSPORTATION
14 SYSTEMS ENCOMPASSING ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION. THE STATE, COUNTIES AND PRIVATE
15 SECTOR SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO REDUCE TRANSPORTATION COSTS TO ENHANCE THE
16 MOVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH REGULATORY POWERS
17 OVER TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, AS WELL AS SYSTEM OPERATORS, SHOULD ACTIVELY SEEK
18 FARMER INPUT ON POLICIES AFFECTING THE MOVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

19

20 **2. HIGHWAYS**

21

22 IN THE ROUTE PLANNING AND LOCATION OF HIGHWAYS AND FREEWAYS, MAJOR CONSIDERATION
23 SHOULD BE GIVEN TO:

24

- 25 A. CONSERVATION OF PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LANDS.
- 26 B. THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF WITHDRAWAL OF SUCH LANDS FOR HIGHWAYS.
- 27 C. AVOIDANCE OF CONGESTED DEVELOPMENTS AND USE OF PRESENT RIGHTS-OF-WAY
28 WHERE FEASIBLE.
- 29 D. ADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY TAKEN, INCLUDING SEVERENCE DAMAGE
30 AND LOSS OF OPERATING EFFICIENCY RESULTING FROM DIVISION OF OPERATING UNITS.

1 E. BEAUTIFICATION OF OUR HIGHWAYS. TRUCKS SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECTED TO
2 UNREASONABLE RESTRICTIONS IN THE USE OF HIGHWAYS, FREEWAYS, AND OTHER
3 ROADS.

4
5 **3. AIR AND SEA TRANSPORTATION**

6
7 THE STATE SHOULD ASSIST INDUSTRY IN SEEKING GREATER AVAILABILITY OF AIR AND SURFACE
8 CARGO TRANSPORTATION. WE ENCOURAGE APPROPRIATE STATE FUNDING OF ADEQUATE HARBOR
9 AND AIRPORT FACILITIES FOR THE HANDLING OF PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. WE
10 SUPPORT EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF REFRIGERATED CARGO CONTAINERS FOR
11 SHIPMENTS OF PERISHABLE GOODS. WE ALSO SUPPORT A CONTAINER INSPECTION FEE WITH THE
12 FUNDS TO BE USED FOR INSPECTION OF INTERSTATE AND INTERISLAND SHIPMENTS TO PREVENT
13 THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF AGRICULTURAL DISEASES AND PESTS.

14
15 **SECTION IV**

16 **ENERGY**

17
18 WE SUPPORT GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE EFFORTS TO PROVIDE A GREATER SHARE OF HAWAII'S
19 ENERGY NEEDS FROM GEOTHERMAL, BIOMASS CONVERSION, SOLAR, WINDPOWER AND
20 HYDROELECTRIC SOURCES. PROGRAMS THAT ASSIST FARMERS TO INSTALL ALTERNATIVE ENERGY
21 FACILITIES ON THEIR FARMS SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

22
23 **SECTION V**

24 **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

25
26 **1. NATURAL DISASTER AID**

27
28 NATURAL DISASTER AID PROGRAMS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED AND MADE READY FOR IMMEDIATE
29 IMPLEMENTATION TO AS TO AID THE BROADEST NUMBER OF COMMODITY GROUPS AFFECTED.

1 IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT DEPENDENCE OF HAWAII'S CITIZENS ON FOOD IMPORTS, STATE AND
2 COUNTY GOVERNMENTS SHOULD DETERMINE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT NATURAL OR MAN-MADE
3 DISASTERS WILL IMPACT THE FOOD SUPPLY OF THE VARIOUS ISLANDS, AND SHOULD ESTABLISH
4 PROGRAMS TO ENSURE THAT THE FOOD SUPPLY WILL BE ADEQUATE IN SUCH AN EVENT.
5 DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURE SUPPLYING A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE FOOD NEEDS OF EACH ISLAND
6 SHOULD BE A KEYSTONE OF THESE PROGRAMS.

7
8 **2. STATE AGRICULTURAL LOAN PROGRAM**

9
10 WE FULLY SUPPORT THE CURRENT PROGRAM OPERATED BY THE STATE. THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
11 SECTORS OF OUR AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY SHOULD PERIODICALLY REVIEW THE INTEREST RATE
12 STRUCTURE OF THEIR PROGRAMS TO BE CERTAIN THAT THEY PROVIDE MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE TO
13 FARMERS WHO OTHERWISE WOULD BE UNABLE TO SECURE FINANCIAL AID.

14
15 PERIODIC AUDITS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S LOAN PROGRAM SHOULD BE MADE TO
16 ENSURE APPROPRIATE CREDIT EXAMINATIONS OF LOAN APPLICANTS.

17
18 **3. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY HEALTH**

19
20 THE STATE AND FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE SHOULD VIGOROUSLY ENFORCE
21 EXISTING RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE FEEDING OF GARBAGE TO HOGS TO REDUCE
22 THE INCIDENCE OF DISEASE.

23
24 THE STATE SHOULD ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO MORE EFFECTIVELY REGULATE THE SALE OF
25 EXOTIC BIRDS SO AS TO REDUCE THE EXPOSURE OF THE STATE TO AVIAN DISEASES SUCH AS
26 NEWCASTLE DISEASE.

1 **4. PEST MANAGEMENT**

2
3 THE STATE SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PEST PROBLEMS OF A REGIONAL NATURE. INDIVIDUAL
4 FARMERS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PEST MANAGEMENT ON THEIR OWN FARMS.

5
6 WE SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE QUARANTINE AND INSPECTION PROGRAMS THAT
7 PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW DISEASES AND PESTS INTO THE STATE. DESPITE THESE
8 PROGRAMS, INVASIVE PESTS HAVE ENTERED OUR STATE AND SPREAD FROM POINT OF CONTACT TO
9 OTHER AREAS AND OTHER ISLANDS. WE URGE THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND EACH
10 COUNTY TO WORK WITH THE INDUSTRY TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO CONTROL PESTS THAT
11 HAVE (OR HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO) BECOME ECONOMICALLY DETRIMENTAL TO AGRICULTURE,
12 WHETHER NEWLY ARRIVED OR ALREADY PRESENT.

13
14 **5. PESTICIDE USE**

15
16 IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT PESTICIDES ARE USED IN ONLY A SAFE AND JUDICIOUS MANNER MAXIMUM
17 USE OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) SHOULD BE PROMOTED BY THE FARM BUREAU AND
18 GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

19
20 WE SUPPORT STRONG ENFORCEMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATIONS ALONG WITH THE
21 DEVELOPMENT OF RESIDUE MONITORING. WE SUPPORT CONTINUING PESTICIDE EDUCATION FOR
22 ALL APPLICATORS. WE SUPPORT THE TIMELY INTRODUCTION OF NEW PESTICIDES THAT HAVE BEEN
23 APPROVED FOR USE **ON THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALSO APPROVAL IN THE STATE OF**
24 **HAWAII.**

25
26 **6. LABELING OF PRODUCTS**

27
28 FEED, SEED AND FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTORS IN THE STATE SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO MAKE
29 AVAILABLE TO BUYERS SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE INGREDIENTS, SOURCES AND RESPECTIVE

1 PERCENTAGES OF THE VARIOUS INGREDIENT COMPONENTS IN THEIR PRODUCTS. THE STATE
2 SHOULD EFFECTIVELY ENFORCE THE EXISTING LAWS.

3

4 **7. LIVESTOCK RUSTLING AND THEFT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

5

6 PUBLIC FUNDS SHOULD BE ALLOCATED FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS GOVERNING THE THEFT
7 OF LIVESTOCK AND THE THEFT AND VANDALISM OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND EQUIPMENT.
8 BUDGETS FOR STATE AGRICULTURAL PARKS SHOULD INCLUDE FUNDING FOR SECURITY
9 PERSONNEL AND MONITORING AT EACH PARK. AGGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS GOVERNING
10 THE THEFT AND VANDALISM OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS IS ENCOURAGED. WE
11 FAVOR STRONGER PENALTIES.

12

13 **8. IMPORTATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

14

15 ALL IMPORTED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS MUST BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME INSPECTION, SANITARY,
16 QUALITY, GRADING, LABELING AND RESIDUE STANDARDS AS DOMESTIC PRODUCTS. ANY PRODUCTS
17 THAT DO NOT MEET THESE STANDARDS SHOULD BE REFUSED ENTRY.

18

19 **9. TRESPASSING**

20

21 WE SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO HELP PROTECT LANDOWNERS AND TENANTS FROM LIABILITY CLAIMS
22 MADE BY TRESPASSERS.

23

24 **10. ANIMAL CARE**

25

26 WE SUPPORT HUMANE TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK THROUGH ACCEPTED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
27 WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR BETTER HEALTH AND SAFETY FOR THE LIVESTOCK WHILE MAINTAINING
28 ACCEPTABLE PRODUCTION LEVELS.

29

1 WE WILL STRIVE TO EDUCATE ANIMAL WELFARISTS CONCERNING HUMANE STANDARDS FOR
2 LIVESTOCK HANDLING PROCEDURES WHICH COMPLEMENT ACCEPTED LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT
3 PRACTICES.

4

5 WE SUPPORT LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE GOOD ANIMAL
6 HUSBANDRY.

7

8 **11. RIGHT TO FARM**

9

10 WE SUPPORT LEGISLATION WHICH PROTECTS AND ENHANCES FARMERS' RIGHT TO FARM USING
11 ACCEPTED FARM PRACTICES.

12

13 **12. WILDLIFE AND FERAL ANIMALS**

14

15 WE SUPPORT EFFORTS TO CONTROL WILDLIFE AND FERAL ANIMALS WHEN THEY PRESENT A
16 DANGER TO FARM CROPS, LIVESTOCK, THE AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH AND HUMAN
17 SAFETY. WE SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF FARMERS AND RANCHERS TO PROTECT THEIR LIVELIHOOD
18 BY PROTECTING THEMSELVES AND THEIR CROPS AND LIVESTOCK FROM THESE ANIMALS.

19

20 **13. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

21

22 THE FARM PRODUCER MUST HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO PRODUCE FOOD AND FIBER AT THE
23 LOWEST POSSIBLE COST. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY HAS REMOVED RELIABLE
24 INSECTICIDES, HERBICIDES AND FUNGICIDES FROM THE MARKET, LEAVING THE PRODUCER AT THE
25 MERCY OF THE NATURAL ENEMIES OF CROPS AND LIVESTOCK. THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND THAT
26 NO REGISTERED PESTICIDES BE REMOVED FROM THE MARKET WITHOUT DUE PROCESS. THE RISK
27 BENEFIT RATIO SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AND DULY WEIGHED.

28

29 NORMAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES SHOULD BE EXEMPT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
30 STATEMENTS, AND WE WILL OPPOSE LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT HARASSMENT OF

1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS BECAUSE OF UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS REGARDING DAMAGE
2 OR PROBABLE DAMAGE TO THE LAND, WATER OR AIR. NO LEGISLATION SHOULD BE ENACTED NOR
3 SHOULD AN ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION BE PROMULGATED UNLESS IT IS BASED ON FACTUAL
4 INFORMATION AND SCIENTIFIC PROOF.

5

6 **14. FARMER PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

7

8 WE ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AT THE NATIONAL, STATE
9 AND COUNTY LEVELS BY MAKING THEMSELVES AVAILABLE TO SERVE ON VARIOUS BOARDS AND
10 COMMISSIONS, AND BY SPEAKING OUT ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE COMMUNITY.

11

12 WE ALSO ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO SEEK ELECTIVE PUBLIC OFFICE AT ALL OF THESE LEVELS.

13

14 HOWEVER, HFBF WILL NOT ENDORSE POLITICAL CANDIDATES.

15

16 **15. PRODUCT PROMOTION**

17

18 THE STATE AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS SHOULD PARTICIPATE WITH INDUSTRY IN VARIOUS
19 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS TO ENCOURAGE THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL
20 PRODUCTS AND TO INCREASE CONSUMPTION OF LOCALLY PRODUCED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
21 WITHIN THE STATE. WE SUPPORT:

22

- 23 1. AGRICULTURAL TOURISM AS A MEANS OF FARM-DIRECT PRODUCT PROMOTION WHERE
24 VISITOR ACTIVITIES ARE SECONDARY TO THE FARM'S PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
25 ACTIVITIES.
- 26 2. PROGRAMS SERVING TO INCREASE POINT OF ORIGIN LABELING ON ALL FRESH PRODUCE.

27

28 **16. CROP REPORTING SERVICE**

29

1 WE SUPPORT THE HAWAII AGRICULTURE REPORTING SERVICE AND THE CROP REPORTING SERVICE
2 OF THE USDA, WHICH PROVIDES NEEDED FARM INFORMATION TO THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY OF
3 HAWAII.

4

5 **WE SUPPORT USDA'S NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE VALUATION OF HAWAII**
6 **COFFEE CROP AS GREEN BEAN.**

7

8 WE URGE ALL HAWAII FARM BUREAU MEMBERS TO COOPERATE WITH THE STATISTICAL REPORTING
9 SERVICE BY SUBMITTING THEIR BEST ESTIMATES WHENEVER ASKED.

10

11 **17. POLITICAL ACTION FOR FARMERS**

12

13 WE URGE EVERY FARM BUREAU MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL PARTY OF THEIR
14 CHOICE.

15

16 WE URGE OUR MEMBERS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN
17 GOVERNMENT, ADVISING THEM AND KEEPING THEM INFORMED OF FARMERS' PROBLEMS AND
18 NEEDS, INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS ON LEGISLATION.

19

20 HFBF SHOULD INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOLICITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS POLITICAL
21 ACTION COMMITTEE AND PROVIDING EXPANDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE CAMPAIGNS OF
22 CANDIDATES WHO ARE HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE GOALS OF HFBF.

23

24 **18. SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**

25

26 WE ENCOURAGE THE USE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED FOODS IN SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS. WE
27 OPPOSE THE SUBSTITUTION OF CARBONATED DRINKS FOR MILK AND FRUIT AND VEGETABLE JUICES.

28

29 **19. FOOD SECURITY**

30

1 WE SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS THAT SERVE TO SHAPE COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS AND
2 POLICIES THAT ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION AND
3 CONSUMPTION.

4
5 WE SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF SYSTEMS AND POLICIES THAT CAN ENHANCE THE ECONOMIC,
6 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL HEALTH OF HAWAII.

7

8 **20. CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

9

10 WE SUPPORT ADEQUATE RESOURCES FOR THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
11 AND CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

12

13 **21. AGRI-TOURISM**

14

15 WE SUPPORT AGRI-TOURISM EXEMPTION FROM COUNTY SPECIAL USE PERMITS FOR OPERATIONS
16 THAT HAVE A MAJORITY OF FARM INCOME FROM FARM PRODUCTS.

17

18 **22. BUILDING CODES**

19

20 WE SUPPORT BUILDING CODE CHANGES TO MAKE CONSTRUCTION CHEAPER WITHOUT
21 COMPROMISING SAFETY FOR SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES (FOR EXAMPLE,
22 GREENHOUSES, COLDFRAMES, SHADEHOUSES, ETC).

23

24 **23. INVASIVE SPECIES**

25

26 WE SUPPORT A PROGRAM WITH BETTER DEFENSES TO ENTRY OF INVASIVE SPECIES INTO HAWAII,
27 SUCH AS IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL THREATS, PRIORITIZING THEM, AND PROACTIVELY FINDING
28 BIOLOGIC, CHEMICAL AND CULTURAL CONTROL AND QUARANTINE PROCEDURES BEFORE THEIR
29 INTRODUCTION. WE FURTHER SUPPORT AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF CONTROL OF INVASIVE

1 SOECIES, WITH AN UPDATED LIST OF INVASIVE SPECIES INCLUDING PESTS THAT ARE INVADING
2 NATIVE FORESTS.

3
4 WE ALSO SUPPORT INCREASED FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND CONTROL USING BIO-CONTROL,
5 FUNDING FOR THE VERY IMPORTANT RESEARCH PHASE, AND ELIMINATING BUREAUCRATIC ROAD
6 BLOCKS TO SPEED UP THE APPROVAL AND RELEASE SYSTEM.

7

8

SECTION VI

9

EDUCATION

10

11 1. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

12

13 THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE HAS MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO FARM
14 FAMILIES AND MUST BE CONTINUED AND STRENGTHENED TO MEET THE FUTURE NEEDS OF
15 AGRICULTURE. ITS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE TO SERVE THE
16 EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL NEEDS OF FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

17

18 WE SUPPORT A SOUND AGRICULTURAL HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM. WE SUPPORT ADEQUATE
19 FUNDING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN
20 RESOURCES AND THE STRENGTHENING OF ITS PROGRAMS BY WAY OF COOPERATIVE PROBLEM
21 SOLVING WITH INDUSTRY AND THROUGH [ITS] USE OF ITS SERVICE CENTER, VARIOUS SPECIALISTS
22 AND AGENTS WHO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

23

24 2. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

25

26 RESEARCH IS VITAL TO THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII. RESEARCH LEADS TO IMPROVEMENT IN THE
27 ENVIRONMENT, CREATES JOBS, IMPROVES WORKING CONDITIONS, ADVANCES HEALTH CARE, AND
28 IMPROVES THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IS AN
29 IMPORTANT LINK IN THE OVERAL RESEARCH EFFORT. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH HAS DEVELOPED
30 METHODS TO IMPROVE YIELDS OF TOP-QUALITY FOOD AND FIBER TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL

1 PEOPLE. THE LEVEL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH MUST BE MAINTAINED TO ASSURE THAT HAWAII
2 FARMERS AND RANCHERS CAN CONTINUE TO BE VITAL SUPPLIERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.
3 REALIZING THAT TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES ARE CRUCIAL FOR HAWAII TO MAINTAIN ITS
4 COMPETITIVE POSITION IN WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION, WE SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL
5 MECHANIZATION RESEARCH AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE TECHNIQUES WHICH PROVE
6 ECONOMICALLY VIABLE.

7
8 IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE ENTIRE AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD INDUSTRIES TO SUPPORT
9 AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AS A TOP PRIORITY. A CLOSE, COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
10 AGRICULTURAL RESEARCHERS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS CRUCIAL TO A SUCCESSFUL
11 PROGRAM. FURTHERMORE, WE URGE COMMODITY GROUPS TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO
12 APPLIED RESEARCH EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION METHODS FOR THEIR COMMODITIES. THE
13 TOTAL POPULATION BENEFITS FROM THESE PRODUCTION ADVANCES. THUS, FEDERAL AND STATE
14 FUNDING OF RESEARCH MUST BE MAINTAINED AT ITS HIGHEST FEASIBLE LEVEL. COMMODITY
15 GROUP FUNDING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN ADDITION, NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT
16 FUNDED RESEARCH.

17

18 **3. VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS**

19
20 THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHOULD FULLY SUPPORT SOUND OVERALL VOCATIONAL
21 AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS IN OUR INTERMEDIATE AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS. THESE PROGRAMS
22 SHOULD BE ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS AND SEEK TO ENROLL THE BEST POSSIBLE STUDENTS.
23 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULD BE TAUGHT AWARENESS OF AGRICULTURE AND ITS
24 EFFECT ON OUR LIVES.

25

26 HFBF SHALL SUPPORT PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE SOUND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE
27 PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND SHOULD SEEK SUPPORT OF THE STATE,
28 COUNTIES, AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

29

30 **4. NEW AND YOUNG FARMER PROGRAMS**

1
2 PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING NEW AND YOUNG FARMERS IN THE STATE SHOULD BE GIVEN
3 MAXIMUM SUPPORT BY THE STATE, THE COUNTIES AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, IN ORDER THAT WE
4 MAY BE ASSURED OF WELL-PREPARED AGRICULTURISTS ENTERING OUR INDUSTRY ON A
5 CONTINUING BASIS.

6
7 HAWAII'S TRANSITION FROM MONO-CROP TO DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL ENDEAVOURS MUCH OF IT
8 PRODUCED ON SMALL FARMS, IS IMPORTANT TO THE STATE'S ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
9 LIFESTYLE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ADVANCE A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND
10 PROGRAMS TO FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS OF NEW SMALL ACREAGE FARMS.

11
12 WE ENCOURAGE ALL NEW AND YOUNG FARMERS AND RANCHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN FARM BUREAU
13 PROGRAMS.

14

15 **5. AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION OF HAWAII**

16

17 PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING FARMERS AS LEADERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES SHOULD BE GIVEN
18 MAXIMUM SUPPORT BY THE STATE, COUNTIES, AND PRIVATE SECTOR. THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU
19 FEDERATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SUCCESS OF
20 AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION OF HAWAII.

21

22 **6. AGRICULTURE APPRECIATION**

23

24 AGRICULTURE EDUCATION NEEDS TO EXTEND BEYOND TEACHING THE BUSINESS AND PRACTICE OF
25 FARMING. WE SHALL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES SERVING TO INCREASE THE VISIBILITY AND
26 APPRECIATION OF OUR FARMERS IN THE COMMUNITY.

27

28 WE SUPPORT A VARIETY OF EFFORTS TO HELP OUR COMMUNITIES BETTER UNDERSTAND AND
29 APPRECIATE THEIR CONNECTION TO LOCAL AGRICULTURE. THESE INCLUDE GARDEN CLUBS, URBAN

1 GARDENS, PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF LONG-TIME FARMERS, FARMER DONATIONS TO FOOD BANKS,
2 SCHOOL GARDENS AND FARM TOURS. BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR
3 CONNECTION TO LOCAL AGRICULTURE CAN INCREASE OUR SENSE OF NATURE, OURSELVES, AND
4 OUR PLACE IN THE LAND.

5
6 **SECTION VII**

7 **FARM PROGRAMS**

8
9 **1. LIVESTOCK**

10
11 WE SUPPORT A FAIR PRICING STRUCTURE FOR ALL LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES. WE SUPPORT
12 PROGRAMS THAT WOULD ASSURE THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY ADEQUATE LAND, WATER AND CAPITAL
13 FOR EFFICIENT OPERATION. WE SUPPORT EFFORTS TO DEVELOP LOCAL PRODUCTION OF
14 LIVESTOCK FEEDS.

15
16 **2. SUGAR**

17
18 WE SUPPORT LONG-TERM LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF DOMESTIC PRODUCERS
19 AND MAINTAIN A VIABLE SUGAR INDUSTRY. WE STRONGLY URGE THE USDA TO CONTINUE TO
20 ADMINISTER THE FARM ACT IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO PREVENT ACCUMULATION OF ANY SUGAR
21 STOCKS BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

22
23 **3. AQUACULTURE**

24
25 THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING SEGMENTS OF HAWAII
26 AGRICULTURE OVER THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS, AND HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A MAJOR
27 PRODUCER OF SEAFOOD AND AQUATIC ORNAMENTAL PRODUCTS FOR LOCAL SALES AND EXPORT.
28 THE STATE CURRENTLY IMPORTS 75-90 PERCENT OF ITS SEAFOOD AND AQUATIC ORNAMENTALS
29 DUE TO HIGH LOCAL DEMAND AND DECLINING FISHERY LANDINGS. WE SUPPORT EFFORTS TO
30 IMPROVE LEASING AND PERMITTING EFFICIENCY FOR AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS WHETHER ON

1 LAND OR ON THE OPEN OCEAN, TO EXPAND PRODUCTION RESEARCH AND EXTENSION SERVICES,
2 AND TO PROMOTE THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY AND ITS MANY DIVERSE PRODUCTS.

3
4 WE SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF AN FDA-APPROVED SHELLFISH
5 SANITATION CERTIFICATION PROGRAM WITHIN THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. FUNDING
6 SHOULD BE PROVIDED AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE PROGRAM AND TRAIN DEPARTMENT OF
7 HEALTH PERSONNEL.

8

9 **4. PINEAPPLE**

10

11 WE SUPPORT THE PINEAPPLE INDUSTRY IN FINDING LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO ITS MARKETING,
12 TRANSPORTATION AND PESTICIDE PROBLEMS. GOVERNMENT MUST BE SUPPORTIVE IN FAIR DUTY
13 APPLICATIONS AND CHEMICAL CLEARANCES.

14

15 **5. FLOWERS AND FOLIAGE**

16

17 THE FLOWER AND FOLIAGE INDUSTRY OF HAWAII HAS BECOME A MAJOR EXPORT CROP FOR THE
18 STATE. BECAUSE OF ITS EXPORT NATURE, THIS INDUSTRY WILL BRING DOLLARS INTO THE STATE
19 AND, AS SUCH, SHOULD BE ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED.

20

21 THE INDUSTRY ITSELF MUST CONTINUE TO WORK ON SOLVING THE MAJOR PROBLEMS OF
22 TRANSPORTATION AND MARKETING. GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT SHOULD BE TO MINIMIZE RED
23 TAPE ON EXPORT SHIPMENTS SO AS TO LESSEN ANY CHANCE OF EMBARGO FROM INSECTS OR
24 DISEASE.

25

26 **6. FRUITS AND NUTS**

27

28 WE SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE INDUSTRY TO REDUCE ITS COST OF PRODUCTION AND TO FIND
29 LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS FOR ITS MARKETING, FINANCING, TRANSPORTATION AND PESTICIDE

1 PROBLEMS. WE SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE THE
2 COMPETITIVE POSITION OF DOMESTIC FARMERS AGAINST FOREIGN PRODUCTION.

3
4 WE SUPPORT CONTINUED RESEARCH ON VARIOUS TREATMENT METHODS AGAINST THE FRUIT FLY
5 AND OTHER PESTS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE HAWAII AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACCESS TO MAINLAND
6 AND FOREIGN MARKETS. WE SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF PROTOCOLS THAT WILL ALLOW SHIPMENT
7 OF HAWAII FRUITS TO COLD WEATHER STATES.

8

9 **7. VEGETABLES AND MELONS**

10

11 EFFORTS MUST CONTINUE TO EXPAND PRODUCTION OF THIS VITAL INDUSTRY TO MEET A GREATER
12 SHARE OF HAWAII'S NEEDS, AS WELL AS EXPORT POTENTIAL. THE INDUSTRY ITSELF MUST
13 CONTINUE TO WORK TO SOLVE ITS PRODUCTION, MARKETING AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS.

14

15 GOVERNMENT MUST BE SUPPORTIVE IN THE PROTECTION OF LANDS FROM URBAN ENCROACHMENT,
16 THE DEVELOPMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, THE CONTINUATION OF CROP RESEARCH AND THE
17 CONTINUED CLEARANCE OF PESTICIDES.

18

19 **8. FEED AND FORAGE**

20

21 BECAUSE OF HIGH IMPORT COSTS OF LIVESTOCK FEEDS, EFFORTS MUST BE EXPANDED TO
22 ESTABLISH A VIABLE FEED AND FORAGE INDUSTRY. THE INDUSTRY ITSELF MUST CONTINUE TO
23 WORK TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF ECONOMICAL PRODUCTION.

24

25 GOVERNMENT MUST BE SUPPORTIVE OF THESE EFFORTS THROUGH SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND
26 EXTENSION EFFORTS.

27

28 **9. FORESTRY**

29

1 OUR FOREST CONSTITUTES ONE OF OUR MOST VALUABLE RENEWABLE RESOURCES. WE FAVOR A
2 PRIVATELY OWNED SUSTAINED FIELD FOREST INDUSTRY ASSISTED BY ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES
3 SUCH AS RESEARCH, FIRE PROTECTION AND PEST CONTROL. FORESTRY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE
4 RECOGNIZED AS AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE.

5
6 **10. ORGANIC FARMING**

7
8 WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF A VIABLE LOCAL ORGANIC COMMODITY GROUP WITH
9 PRACTICES FOLLOWING THE DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM OF
10 2002.

11
12 WE SUPPORT RESEARCH AND OUTREACH IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- 13
- 14 1. FARMING METHODS AND PROTOCOLS FOR ORGANICALLY GROWN CROPS AND LIVESTOCK,
15 INCLUDING COVERCROPS, COMPOSTING AND IPM.
 - 16 2. EDUCATION OF CONSUMERS, FARMERS AND RANCHERS IN ORGANIC PRACTICES.
 - 17 3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, REGENERATION AND VIABILITY OF:
 - 18 A. SOIL FERTILITY THROUGH BALANCED MINERALS
 - 19 B. WATER QUALITY
 - 20 C. AIR QUALITY
 - 21 D. SEED VARIETIES AND PLANT DIVERSITY
 - 22 4. DEVELOPMENT OF MARKETS FOR LOCAL AND EXPORTED PRODUCTS.
 - 23 **5. ENSURING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF SMALL FARMERS, WHILE PROVIDING HEALTHLY**
24 **SAFE FOOD FOR COMSUMERS.**
 - 25 **6. WE SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIES BASED ON FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS AND THROUGH**
26 **PRODUCTION, VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIPS.**
- 27
28
29
30

1 **SECTION VIII**

2 **MARKETING**

3
4 WE BELIEVE THAT EFFECTIVE MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IS AS IMPORTANT TO THE
5 PRODUCER AS THE ACTUAL PRODUCTION OF THE COMMODITY. TO THIS END, PRODUCERS HAVE
6 THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING MARKETING STRATEGIES TO MEET THEIR NEEDS. WE
7 RECOGNIZE THAT COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION AMONG PRODUCERS ARE ESSENTIAL TO
8 THIS PROCESS AND ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION OF COMMODITY INFORMATION GROUPS. THE
9 FOLLOWING AREAS ARE ALSO ESSENTIAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE MARKETING
10 STRATEGIES.

11
12 **1. PRODUCT PROMOTION**

13
14 PRODUCT PROMOTION SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY COMMODITY GROUPS TO INTRODUCE
15 CONSUMERS TO AND EDUCATE CONSUMERS ABOUT THEIR PRODUCTS. WHILE THIS IS THE PRIMARY
16 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRODUCERS, GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSIST BY PROVIDING PRODUCT
17 PROMOTION GRANTS AND BY PARTICIPATING IN JOINT PROMOTIONAL AND MARKETING PROGRAMS.

18
19 **2. PAYMENT TO PRODUCERS**

20
21 WHOLESALERS SHOULD PAY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS WITHIN 30 DAYS FOR COMMODITIES
22 PURCHASED, UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR IN A WRITTEN CONTRACT. PRODUCERS SHOULD
23 DEVELOP FIRM BUSINESS POLICIES CONCERNING CONTRACTS ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS. FARMERS
24 SHOULD ADD AN APPROPRIATE INTEREST CHARGE ONTO ANY ACCOUNT NOT PAID IN FULL AFTER 30
25 DAYS.

26
27 WE SUPPORT MORE EFFECTIVE STATE AND PRODUCER EFFORTS GOVERNING PAYMENT TO
28 PRODUCERS OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

1 **3. PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES**

2
3 WE RECOMMEND THAT THE PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ACT (PACA) BE AMENDED TO
4 PROVIDE FOR CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE AND SUPERVISION OF TRADING PRACTICES IN THE
5 PURCHASE AND SALE OF PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.
6

7 **4. FAIRS**

8
9 THE HAWAII STATE FARM FAIR SERVES THE PURPOSE OF SHOWCASING HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL
10 INDUSTRY TO MANY PEOPLE IN THE STATE WHO LIVE IN URBAN CENTERS, AND ALSO SERVES TO
11 ENCOURAGE OUR YOUTH TO CONSIDER CAREERS IN AGRICULTURE. THE HAWAII STATE FARM FAIR
12 MAY BE PRODUCED ANNUALLY BY THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION AS A MEANS OF
13 PROMOTING OUR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY. THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE COUNTIES SHOULD
14 CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PRODUCT PROMOTION AT THE STATE AND COUNTY FAIRS. THE
15 STATE SHOULD SEEK THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PERMANENT SITE FOR THE HAWAII STATE FARM FAIR,
16 WHICH ALSO COULD BE UTILIZED BY THE STATE FOR OTHER PURPOSES. EACH INDIVIDUAL COUNTY
17 GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTINUE SUPPORT OF LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCTS BY PROVIDING
18 PROMOTIONAL FUNDS.
19

20 **5. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES**

21
22 AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES (MARKETING, PROCESSING, PURCHASING, ETC.) SHOULD BE
23 ENCOURAGED TO STRENGTHEN THE MARKETING AND PURCHASING POSITIONS OF FARMERS.
24 GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST IN THE FORMATION OF AGRICULTURAL
25 COOPERATIVES.
26

27 **6. FARMERS' MARKETS**

28
29 FARMERS' MARKETS ORGANIZED BY THE HAWAII FARM BUREAU FEDERATION HAVE BECOME A
30 VALUABLE MARKETING TOOL FOR SMALL FARMERS AS WELL AS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF

1 REVENUE FOR THE FEDERATION. WE ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE MARKETS
2 WHEREVER FEASIBLE.

3

4

SECTION IX

5

LABOR

6

1. YOUTH

8

9 THERE IS A SPECIAL NEED TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITY AMONG YOUTH. IT
10 IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOUTH HAVE BENEFICIAL MEANS OF UTILIZING THEIR TIME. WE
11 SUPPORT MEANS TO IMPROVE YOUNG PEOPLE'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT. SUCH
12 OPPORTUNITIES, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE IN PRODUCTIVE ENTERPRISES SUCH AS AGRICULTURE,
13 FORESTRY, OR SKILLED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, AND NOT "MAKE WORK" RELIEF SCHEMES.

14

2. AGRICULTURAL LABOR

16

17 EVERYONE IN HAWAII SHOULD BE GUARANTEED THE RIGHT TO WORK ON JOBS OF THEIR OWN
18 CHOOSING WITHOUT INTIMIDATION. OPTIONS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY AND
19 PROMPTLY WITH LABOR DISPUTES ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE PUBLIC INTEREST. FARM WORKERS
20 SHOULD BE GUARANTEED SECRET BALLOT ELECTONS WHENEVER AN ORGANIZING EFFORT TAKES
21 PLACE.

22

23 WE SUPPORT AN INVESTIGATION OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION, HEALTH, UNEMPLOYMENT AND TDI
24 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS TO ASSESS MEANS OF REDUCING THEIR ACCELERATING IMPACT ON
25 FARM LABOR

26

27 WE SUPPORT MORE EFFICIENT USE OF FEDERAL GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE H-2A
28 PROGRAM.

29

30

