



Lela F. Klingert
President

February 22, 2013

Representative Eric A. Feige
Co-Chairman, Resource Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Representative Dan Saddler
Co-Chairman, Resource Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

HCR1 SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Feige and Chairman Saddler:

This is to express enthusiastic support for the substance and purposes of HCR1, and to urge its timely adoption. At CFAB, we have been gradually becoming aware of the trends and the opportunities in relatively small-scale agricultural production in Alaska, and in particular that which is oriented toward domestic consumption. We are aware, also, that it is an activity whose features and risk characteristics are not likely to draw significant interest from conventional private lenders. With that in mind, we have coincidentally, taken steps to seek amendments to AS44.81 – the "CFAB Statute"- in Sections 2,3, and 4 of SB61 and HB121. While passage of that legislation by itself will open pathways to financial services for small-scale agricultural production, it would seem that the concurrent adoption of HCR1 would not only further the "common good" aspects of the matter, but would create opportunities for flexibility in financing for both producers and commercial consumers.

We would be most happy to respond to questions from, or to engage in discussion with, any member or body of the Alaska State Legislature about the merits of HCR1.

Very truly yours,

Alan D. Otness, Chairman

Lela F. Klingert, President



Alaska Botanical Garden

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Julianne McGuinness

Representative Bill Stoltze
State Capitol Room 515
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Stoltze,

I wish to express my thanks and strong support of HCR01. As Executive Director of the Alaska Botanical Garden, I commonly work with Alaskan farmers, gardeners, schools, and community agencies on education and research projects and initiatives – and I am acutely aware of the need to improve the food systems in Alaska in order to provide more local, healthy, and secure food to the Alaskan public.

I believe that HCR01 would promote greater communication, collaboration, and coordination between the various segments of Alaska's food supply chain – subsequently producing more sustainable and appropriate food policies for our state.

We are confident that these efforts will help to solve the issues we see when we bring gardening education into the schools to teach children “where their food comes from” - ironically, there seem to be prohibitions on allowing the children to “eat what they sow”. We can teach Alaskan children how to plant carrot seeds, but it is frustrating to then see the school serve them pre-packaged snacks shipped in from Outside rather than Alaskan carrots.

I am very grateful for the work of the Alaska Legislature in support of the Alaska Food Policy Council, and for working to establish a new state food resource development working group. I believe I echo the sentiment of many of Alaska's farmers, gardeners, and public consumers when saying that we would like to see more Alaskan-grown and harvested food items be made available to the public - and development of policies to encourage distributors, stores, schools, and restaurants to utilize Alaskan-sourced produce and other food products.

The Alaska Botanical Garden is happy to help however we can in terms of education, research, and in raising public awareness of Alaska's agricultural and horticultural resources to promote greater food security and public health. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of HCR01, and thank you so much for your efforts on behalf of Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Julianne McGuinness
Executive Director
Alaska Botanical Garden

February 28, 2013

Dear Representative Stolze:

My name is Jennifer Mac Donald and I am a member of our local food cooperative in Sitka, AK. I am writing to express my strong support of HCR01. This resolution recognizes the importance to **all** Alaskans of developing a strong and secure food system that can **provide jobs, support healthy communities, and increase food security to feed the hungry and insulate us from potential disruptions along the food supply chain.**

I am pleased to see the Alaska State Legislature encourage the Governor to establish a new state food resource development working group. The primary goal of the new working group -- **producing more locally grown and harvested food items to be consumed in Alaska, by Alaskans** -- will create an even stronger local food movement for Alaska because of the movement's support from our legislature. Sitka's interest in local foods spans from our Fish to Schools program, our farmers markets, our community garden, food cooperative, local businesses that rely on wild crafting and foraging, and most notably our community supported fishery from the most sustainable fisheries in the country. Alaska has so much potential to take the lead in creating infrastructure for local foods. This working group will set the standard for the country. Lets make it happen!

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony to the committee.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Mac Donald
2116 Halibut Point Road, #7
Sitka, AK 99835

CC'ed:

Representative Feige	Representative Seaton
Representative Saddler	Representative Tarr
Representative Wilson	Representative Tuck
Representative Hawker	Representative Johnson
Representative Olson	

Darrell Breese

From: Linda Swarner <kpfoodbanked@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 5:04 PM
To: Rep. Bill Stoltze
Subject: HCRO1

Representative Stolze,

Thank you for introducing this resolution which affects thousands of Alaskans throughout the State of Alaska. The special food resources and development workgroup would play an important part in assisting antihunger groups helping hungry Alaskans of all ages. The coordination of groups working on food security issues in Alaska will help everyone!! A strong and secure food system provides jobs and supports healthy communities!!!

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Linda Swarner

Executive Director

Kenai Peninsula Food Bank

33955 Community College Drive

Soldotna, AK 99669

907-262-3111

907-262-6428 (fax)

Mark the date--Chefs of the Night on March 2nd

We feed people because no one deserves to be hungry!

Serving the Kenai Peninsula for 25 years!!!

Darrell Breese

From: Leah Walsh <lkwalsh@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 1:25 PM
To: Darrell Breese
Subject: Written Support: HCR01

Dear Representative Stolze,

My name is Leah Walsh, Bethel-based member of the Alaska Food Policy Council, and I am writing to express my strong support of HCR01. The vision of the AFPC is healthy, secure food systems that feed all Alaskans and its mission is to improve our food systems for the benefit of all Alaskans, and I believe that HCR01 would enable us to accomplish our mission more effectively in our state. This resolution would allow us to see more collaboration between the many interests involved in our state's food supply chain and thereby help us accomplish a more efficient, sustainable, and effective food resource development policy for Alaska that works for *all* Alaskans.

I am pleased to see the Alaska State Legislature support the work of the Alaska Food Policy Council and encourage the Governor to establish a new state food resource development working group. The primary goal of the new working group -- **producing more locally grown and harvested food items to be consumed in Alaska, by Alaskans** -- supports several of the goals of the AFPC. The Alaska Food Policy Council looks forward to collaborating with the new working group and all the state agencies involved in our food system to address Alaska's critical food challenges.

Being a rural Alaskan resident, I see great potential for this legislation to help our state develop a sustainable food system that meets the needs of all Alaskans.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony to the committee.

Sincerely,

Leah Walsh

Alaska Food Policy Council Member

Member of Bethel Healthy Foods Taskforce

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