

Darrell Breese

To: Mary Sullivan
Subject: RE: FBA Supports HCR01

From: Mary Sullivan [<mailto:msullivan@foodbankofalaska.org>]
Sent: Friday, January 25, 2013 6:35 PM
Subject: FBA Supports HCR01

Greeting Representative Bill Stoltze,

I would like to write and express Food Bank of Alaska's strong support of HCR01. At Food Bank of Alaska we believe that no one deserves to be hungry. We have fought tirelessly for the approximately 105,000 hungry Alaskans to find private sector solutions and work to maximize the efficiency and accountability and impact of available food assistance programs. But we will never find a lasting solution to the problem of hunger in Alaska if we are not working together with all our food supply and distribution stakeholders. That's why Food Bank of Alaska joined the over 200 Alaskans working with the Alaska Food Policy Council (AFPC), including stakeholders from the farming, fishing, business, health, and environmental conservation sectors of our state. We joined because of our shared concerns about the many food challenges we face, and we are looking for a way to tackle them in a comprehensive way. Some of these challenges include:

- **Businesses** see that over a billion dollars a year that Alaskans spend on food is being exported to communities in the lower 48. These "food dollars" could be staying right here in our communities, putting people to work.
- **Health professionals** see skyrocketing rates of obesity, and deaths from diet-related disease, like diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Families and food safety advocates are worried about death and illness from contaminated food.
- **Teachers** see kids in school performing poorly because they are hungry or eating too many empty calories and junk food.
- **Families** in communities with high fuel prices are **forced to choose between paying for heat or for food**, and food is losing.

We are excited that HCR01 has been introduced and strongly support the formation of a food resources and development working group to help address Alaska's food supply and food security challenges. Thank you,

Mary Sullivan

Director of Advocacy & Agency Relations

Food Bank of Alaska

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Last year, with just a click, 1,200 Alaskans helped FBA acquire 365,000 lbs of food! [Pick.Click.Give](#) for FBA in 2013, let's make the new year a tough one for hunger in Alaska!

Darrell Breese

From: Marty <marty_langlois@lksd.org>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 11:35 AM
To: Darrell Breese
Subject: re support for HCR01

Dear Representative Stolze,

My name is *Marty Langlois* (*Bethel Lions Club Food Bank*), and I am writing to express my strong support of HCR01. The vision of the AFPC and our Bush Bethel Lions Club 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.

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

P.S. I've been involved in our Bethel Lions Club Food Bank for 15 years and what used to arrive in variety and mass, now has dwindled to a mere shadow of past plenty. Yet, we served 95 families in January and they came with the temp near -20 and many paying the \$5 cab fare each way. There is a great need to address the most basic needs of the poor out here and in all of ALASKA, but the Bush has its poverty as well as the road system communities. Just to get the food from the airport to our Food Bank, we use private vehicles. My Caravan's suspension, now shot, resembles an upside down "U". One reality of our plight out here. But it is the poor who suffer and with prices in the Bush rising for everything, we need all the State support we can get to even meagerly get what food we can to those in need. Quiana, Marty Langlois, Bethel Lions Club P.o. Box 646, Bethel, AK 99559

Darrell Breese

To: Scott Gruhn
Subject: RE: In support of HCR01

From: Scott Gruhn [<mailto:sgruhn@alaska.com>]
Sent: Saturday, January 26, 2013 8:36 AM
Subject: In support of HCR01

Hello~

I'm writing to support HCR01. I am an engineer in Anchorage; my only ties to the issue of food security are that I'm an Alaskan who eats and who cares about others.

Alaska needs greater food security, and HCR01 is the ideal next step in that direction. There are obvious benefits to food security, such as the old adage that every country (or region) is only three meals away from revolution. Here in Alaska, we are at risk of substantial earthquakes and volcanoes, which can completely block transportation and isolate us, just when we are at the moment of greatest need. We are so remote from the rest of the continent that such isolation could claim many lives.

There are other, less obvious benefits to pursuing greater food security, too, such as increased job opportunities, especially in rural Alaska where food costs are at their highest and employment opportunities are at their lowest.

Please do everything in your power to ensure passage of HCR01.

Thank you.

Scott Gruhn,
10501 Lone Tree Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507
cell: 907-632-8626

Darrell Breese

From: Milli <millimom@xyz.net>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 2:32 PM
To: 'Rep.Bill'
Cc: Darrell Breese; 'Rep. Paul Seaton'
Subject: re: HCR 1

Dear Rep. Stoltze,

Thank you for again bringing forward HCR 1, that would establish a State Food Resource Development Working Group. I see this as a very positive way to assist and encourage more local, locally grown and produced products within Alaska. In Homer we have a very active agriculture community, that has grown tremendously over the past years with the access to high tunnels, and, the peony flower industry, alongside the long existing beef and grasslands productions. I believe the State can play a vital role in assisting these growers, to the benefit of all Alaskans, and therefore I strongly support HCR 1.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Milli Martin
PO Box 2652
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-6652.