

[REDACTED]

From: Denise Hardy [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 10:57 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Denise Hardy
Reindeer Farm

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__http://Www.reindeerfarm.com__;!!LdQKC6s!OSZti5kGcoPOP9J9yn_qWy-QkQ8LgPe-_ZbLVq-PVcqmqOIDCxtxsw02jRYRqSkAzlnL0M6YxPjw-BSDgtZrDF38XGX0do-CtupRtzWMUE4hU\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http://Www.reindeerfarm.com__;!!LdQKC6s!OSZti5kGcoPOP9J9yn_qWy-QkQ8LgPe-_ZbLVq-PVcqmqOIDCxtxsw02jRYRqSkAzlnL0M6YxPjw-BSDgtZrDF38XGX0do-CtupRtzWMUE4hU$)
907-745-4000

[REDACTED]

From: Jo Woodward [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 9:22 AM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,
Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.
Thank you,

The senator is Senator Dan Sullivan. I agree w/the above but must take Senator Dan Sullivan's stance in the matter since he knows more about the matter in context. But until he takes action I do urge his supporting the HB 298.

Thank you. ... Ms. Jo Woodward

[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99775.3251
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: PBS [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 10:31 AM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

From: dorothy deblauw [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 10:46 AM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Click Bishop
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Dorothy DeBlauw

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Schmidt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 12:03 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Sarah Schmidt

[REDACTED]

From: S Crosby [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 2:17 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Dear Senator Hughes, and CRA Committee members:

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE addresses this issue by engaging experts in the various sectors of the food system to work in collaboration with agencies and legislators. This is a great first step toward reversing our state's dismal statistics of 95% vs. 5% (imported vs. locally grown food).

The pandemic was an eye opener, but things aren't likely to improve anytime soon, what with on-going issues in the supply chain and increased transportation costs, which will directly affect the price of food. We can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Suzy Crosby

Cottonwood Creek Farm
Suzy Crosby & Mike Pendergrast
[REDACTED] home (eves. & wkends.)
[REDACTED] Suzy cell
[REDACTED] Mike cell

Email: [REDACTED]
<http://www.localharvest.org/cottonwood-creek-farm-M52985>
<https://www.facebook.com/CottonwoodCreekFarmAK>

[REDACTED]

From: Rachael Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 2:49 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please support HB 298!

Greetings Senator Hughes and Senate Committee on Community & Regional Affairs,

I am a business professor at Alaska Pacific University, food systems consultant of 15 years, and governing board member of the Alaska Food Policy Council. While I reside in Anchorage, I am writing to you from Kodiak Island, where I will facilitate a meeting about more food production on the island and in surrounding communities. A timely meeting, as HB 298 will be heard today by the Committee. There is so much momentum around building more robust food systems right now and I am heartened to see the legislature's interest in this sector.

I cannot express the importance of HB 298 and its potential impact on food security for Alaskans. Legislative support is critical to grow, process, store, and sell local food and producing more will require a systems-wide approach with collaboration from industry, nonprofits, the administration, the legislature, and consumers. I thank the legislature for their joint and bipartisan efforts already - the Alaska Food and Farm Caucus is a fantastic start and I look forward to seeing it progress.

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer.

HB 298 will have a very real, immediate, and positive impact on Alaska's food systems and any Alaskan who eats food. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Many thanks for your service and dedication,
Rachael Miller
[Alaska Food Policy Council](#), Governing Board
email: [REDACTED]
mobile: [REDACTED]
[Linked In](#)

[REDACTED]

From: Robbi Mixon [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 3:12 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Gary Stevens
Subject: In support of HB298

Madam Chair and members of the committee, and Senator Stevens,

Hello, my name is Robbi Mixon. While I reside in Homer, I am writing today from Kodiak, Alaska, where I'm working with an incredible group of Alaska Native farmers who are working to build greater food security for their villages through farming, hydroponics, and mariculture.

Today I am representing Alaska Food Policy Council, where I've served as Executive Director for the past 2.5 years and as a board member for 2 years prior.

We are a nonprofit organization committed to making improvements to Alaska's food system. Over 175 agencies and individuals representing federal and state agencies, tribal entities, schools, university programs, farmers, fisheries, and food systems businesses are represented by the AFPC. Our goal is to create a healthier, more secure, and more self-reliant Alaska by improving our food system.

Though we are small in staff - with just one part-time employee, we are mighty in reach and expertise. AFPC maintains several statewide working groups, like the Food Waste Committee and Indigenous Foods Working Group, that examine different parts of the food system. In 2020 we received a USDA Regional Food System Partnership Grant.

Our project, *Growing Connections and Building Networks for Greater Food Security* aims to connect localized food system organizations by creating a statewide network of "regional nodes." Through direct facilitation, each node was guided through a series of planning discussions, including community and region-based asset mapping to identify unique capacities for local food systems, while revealing barriers and system deficiencies.

By looking at how parts are connected throughout the food system, we are identifying ways to leverage assets in a community and beyond, while creating or identifying inventories of food systems capital- from financial and social, to infrastructure and governance leverage existing food system assessments.

Through regular statewide connection, communication, and collaboration, these regional nodes have begun to collectively identify linkages and partnerships which will be leveraged to create a preliminary 10-year statewide food security action plan, to help guide the work of the Alaska Food Policy Council and other food organizations. This plan will also help inform the work of the task force, translating these broad policy recommendations into specific policies and regulations.

AFPC is capable of providing support and structure to this Task Force, should we have the honor of doing so. We have been training and preparing for this for over a decade. Our USDA project, coupled with AFPC's research, committee activities, outreach, and convening capabilities, can directly support and complement the work of an Alaska Food Strategy Task Force, along with the work to be conducted by Governor Dunleavy's Food Security Task Force, forming in the next couple of weeks.

I commend the Governor's Administration Order and view HB298 as a continuation of the work ahead of us, and will provide more time and scope, and increased stakeholder input. In order to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency, this must be an ongoing and long-term effort.

The past two years have revealed more clearly than ever a tremendous lack of security within our Alaskan food system - shipping delays, food waste, increased hunger, and not enough local production to feed our citizens, to name a few of the symptoms.

We have great challenges ahead of us, truly hope that this proposed task force can help lay the groundwork to transform our food system into a more localized, inclusive, equitable, and sustainable one. Through the collaboration from stakeholders across Alaska's food system, recommendations on policy, programs, and investments can help achieve this. The formation of a diverse and far-reaching food security task force would offer Alaska a chance to move toward greater food security for all Alaskans. We are in full support of HB 298.

Thank you for everything you do for Alaska.
Robbi Mixon

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Robbi Mixon, Executive Director
Alaska Food Policy Council

I recognize that I work throughout the unceded territories of the Indigenous Peoples of Alaska; that our office is located on the traditional territories of the Dena'ina and Sugpiaq Peoples; I acknowledge the ancestral & present land stewardship and place-based knowledge of the peoples of these territories.

TAKE THE \$5/WEEK ALASKA GROWN CHALLENGE

By spending \$5 a week on Alaska Grown products, you'll help local farmers, boost the local economy, increase Alaska's food security, and eat better too.

[REDACTED]

From: Barbara Landi [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 5:01 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; +Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Barbara Landi

[REDACTED]

From: Tina McCluskey [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 7:12 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

From: Scott Murgage [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2022 7:24 PM
To: Senate Community and Regional Affairs; Sen. Shelley Hughes
Subject: Please move HB 298 Alaska Food Strategy Task Force from Senate CRA

Senator Hughes,

Alaska needs to have a comprehensive strategy for building a resilient food system that brings agencies, legislators and stakeholders all to the table. HB 298 ALASKA FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE, does this; it forms a task force that will have experts in the various sectors of the food system working in collaboration with agencies and legislators. As we're looking at continued issues in the supply chain and transportation, and food prices increasing, we can't put off finding solutions to food security issues in Alaska any longer. I urge you to support HB 298 and take quick action to move it from the Senate CRA committee.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPad