

Brittany Hutchison

From: Ruth McHenry <cca@coppervalleyak.net>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:05 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop
Cc: Peter Feilman; John Manly; Michael Smith; Brittany Hutchison
Subject: local foods

Dear Senator Bishop,

Many thanks for your interest in and support for "healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate foods" for Alaskans! My husband and I are just home gardeners, but we have friends who sell their produce through CSAs or at farmers' markets. They all have to have additional sources of income, because they are competing with "Outside" foods.

Ruth McHenry

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Ruth McHenry
HC60 Box 306T
Copper Center, AK 99573
907-822-3644

Brittany Hutchison

From: Milli <millimom@xyz.net>
Sent: Monday, February 18, 2013 3:53 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop
Cc: Brittany Hutchison
Subject: SCR 1

Dear Senator Bishop,

Thank you for sponsoring SCR1 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 SCR1.

Thank you.

Sincerely


Milli Martin

PO Box 2652

Homer, Alaska 99603



Bryce Wrigley, President
bjwrigley@wildak.net

Jane Hamilton, Executive Director
janehamilton99737@yahoo.com

Dear Senator Bishop,

Thank you for introducing SCR01 to coordinate and strengthen Alaska's efforts to create a local food system. Food production and food security must become a top priority of the state. There is less than a week's supply of food in the state. We ship in almost all the food we consume. We are dependent on a food distribution system that has been disrupted numerous times due to natural and man caused disasters.

Over-regulation and a lack of vision frustrate farmers and ranchers and hinder the growth and expansion of the industry. Agencies providing inspection services, veterinary services and the oversight of land issues are currently functions of several different agencies. We believe implementation of SCR01 would help develop a local sustainable food system by coordinating and focusing the resources of several agencies on the mission of providing food for Alaskans.

Creation of a strong local food system will greatly strengthen the security of Alaska by stemming the export of food dollars and putting the source of our food 1800 miles closer. A strong local food system will benefit the economy of the state by billions of dollars in economic activity if properly managed.

We urge the senate to support and pass SCR01. We also urge its support and implementation by the Governor.

Sincerely,

Bryce Wrigley
President, Alaska Farm Bureau



Sitka Conservation Society
Box 6533
Sitka, Alaska 99835
(907) 747-7509
info@sitkawild.org
www.sitkawild.org

"Protecting the natural environment of the Tongass while supporting the development of sustainable communities in Southeast Alaska – since 1967."

Dear Senator Bishop,

My name is Tracy Gagnon and I am writing to express my strong support of SCR01 on behalf of our 1,200 members of the Sitka Conservation Society (SCS). At SCS we are dedicated to developing sustainable communities in Southeast Alaska. A core component of a sustainable community is a viable food system. We have worked to support the development of a viable food system by connecting the local seafood industry to institutional food services in Alaska. One of the programs where we have done this successfully is through our Fish to Schools (F2S) program, which helped get local fish into the local school lunch program. F2S connects fishermen, seafood processors, local school districts, and food service providers to ensure that local seafood is served to students through the school lunch program. This program not only strengthens our local food system but supports and creates jobs, bolsters economic activity, and connects our community to its deepest cultural roots. A state food resource development working group, through SCR01, would strengthen the capacity of our food system and generate cumulative benefits for our state's health and economy.

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 and our mission at SCS. As a member of the AFPC, we look forward to collaborating with the new working group and state agencies to strengthen our food system and address Alaska's critical food challenges.

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

Sincerely,

*Tracy Gagnon
Community Sustainability Organizer
Sitka Conservation Society*

*(907) 747-7509
tracy@sitkawild.org*

Brittany Hutchison

From: Mary Sullivan <msullivan@foodbankofalaska.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 1:10 PM
To: Brittany Hutchison; Sen. Click Bishop
Cc: daniel.consenstein@ak.usda.gov; Nick Moe; Alaska Food Coalition; Michael Miller
Subject: Support for SCR1 - Food Bank of Alaska

Dear Senator Bishop,

My name is Mary Sullivan and I am the Director of Advocacy and Agency Relations for Food Bank of Alaska. I am writing to express Food Bank of Alaska's strong support for SCR1. 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 both private and public. 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 SCR01 has been introduced by Senator Bishop 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

2121 Spar Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

Direct Line: 907-222-3113

Cell: 907-727-8773

Fax: 907-277-7368

Email: msullivan@foodbankofalaska.org

www.foodbankofalaska.org

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!



Catholic Social Services

3710 East 20th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508 • (907) 222-7300 • Fax (907) 258-1091 • www.cssalaska.org

February 19, 2013

Senator Click Bishop
State Capitol Room 115
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Bishop,

Catholic Social Services (CSS) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 and the vision to improve our food systems for the benefit of all Alaskans. CSS operates the largest food pantry in the state — St. Francis House located in Anchorage. Last year, we provided groceries at no cost to 15,493 unduplicated and 49,836 duplicated clients who experienced food insecurity.

I am pleased to see the Alaska State Legislature supports the work of the Alaska Food Policy Council (AFPC) 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 and CSS. We look 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.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Bomalaski, Ph.D., LPC
Executive Director

*Providing Help
Creating Hope*



701 West 8th Avenue, Suite 230
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
tel 907.263.3800
fax 907.263.3801
www.unitedwayofanchorage.org



19 February 2013

RE: Letter of Support for SCR 1 Establishment and operation of a state food resource development working group

Dear Senator Bishop:

A strong and secure Alaskan food system is essential to the health and wellness of all Alaskans.

This resolution supports collaboration and intentional integration of resources among the many interests involved in our state's food supply chain to improve our food system. By working together, Alaska will have a more efficient, sustainable, and effective food resource development policy and framework that works for all Alaskans and will

- Deliver 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.
- Leverage the work of the Alaska Food Policy Council with over 200 Alaskans from the farming, fishing, business, food banking/anti-hunger network, health, and environmental conservation sectors of our state. Stakeholders formed and joined this policy council because of their concerns of the many Alaskan food challenges, and are and will be working to tackle them in a comprehensive way.
- Provide nutritious and affordable, especially local foods, that are part of the solution to support Alaskans in their efforts to have healthy weights and prevent disease.
- Support the goal that 90% of Alaskan students graduate on time by the year 2020. When students are distracted by hunger, they are unable to focus, stay and succeed in school.
- Bend the cost curve on healthy foods so that families don't have to choose between paying for heat or for food.

Thank you for sponsoring this resolution and the opportunity to provide written testimony to the committee.

Sincerely,


Michele Brown
President

LIVE UNITED.

Brittany Hutchison

From: Marty <marty_langlois@lksd.org>
Sent: Monday, February 18, 2013 2:28 PM
To: Brittany Hutchison
Subject: Re: Alaska State Food Resource Development Working Group

Hi Brittany: If you feel my voice would be helpful that would be fine. However, we are off next week from school(home Ph. 907-543-4262) and I'll be at Grand Jury on the remaining Thursdays of Feb. Thanks and best to Sen. Bishop on this bill. Marty Langlois, Bethel.

Dear Senator Bishop:

Feb. 18, 2013

My name is *Marty Langlois(Bethel Lions Club Food Bank)*, and I am writing to express my strong support of SCRI. 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 SCRI 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 '93 Caravan's suspension, now shot, resembles an upside down "U". Just one reality of our plight out here. However, 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 obtain whatever food we can for those in need. Quayana, Marty Langlois, Bethel Lions Club P.O. Box 646, Bethel, AK 99559, 907-543-4300msg.. Work: 907-543-4440, ext. 3217.

Brittany Hutchison

From: Lisa Sadleir-Hart <sitkalocalfoodsnetwork@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 12:01 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop
Cc: Brittany Hutchison
Subject: SCR1 support

Dear Senator Bishop,

My name is Lisa Sadleir-Hart, co-chair of the Alaska Food Policy Council (AFPC), treasurer of the Sitka Local Foods Network and former Community Nutrition Department Manager with the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium. I am writing to express my strong support of SCR01. 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 SCR01 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.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sadleir-Hart, MPH, RD, CHES

Co-Chair, Alaska Food Policy Council

Sitka Local Foods Network

408 D Marine Street

Sitka, AK 99835

www.sitkalocalfoodsnetwork.org

sitkalocalfoodsnetwork@gmail.com

907-738-8336 (For Farmers Markets)

President, Kerry MacLane

V. President, Linda Wilson

Secretary, Robin Grewe

Treasurer, Lisa Sadleir-Hart

Board Members, Cathy Liser, Maybelle Filler and one vacant seat

Brittany Hutchison

From: Dean Hamburg <DHamburg@kpbsd.k12.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 4:33 PM
To: Brittany Hutchison
Subject: SCR 1 Support Alaska School Nutrition Association Dean Hamburg

Honorable State Senator Click Bishop

State Capitol Room 115
Juneau AK, 99801
Phone: 907-465-2327 Fax: 907-465-5241

2/20/2013



SCR 1 support- ALASKA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

My name is Dean Hamburg and I serve as Public Policy and Legislative Chair for the Alaska School Nutrition Association.

I also serve as Administrator for the 83 USDA school meal programs sponsored by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Please know President Bob Eason for the Alaska School Nutrition Association, shares AKSNA support for SCR 1, as a step toward improved food security for Alaska families.

Any effort to bring a greater availability of more local Alaska sourced and/or processed foods is a good thing for Alaska's children and adults.

Those of us responsible for producing the millions of school meals provided to Alaska students each year, welcome any effort to increase the ability of Alaska food producing entities to meet the growing demand for school meal programs.

As approximately 46% of Alaska Families qualify for free or reduced priced USDA school meals, those of us challenged with meeting this need for school food supply, too much depend on sourcing foods from outside of Alaska.

We very much welcome the actions & effort represented in HCR01 as a positive step toward bringing quality foods and increased quantities of Alaska foods to Alaska children served by school meal programs across Alaska.

In school meal programs, our mission is nutrition to Alaska's children. Any actions for improved support to Alaska food security are encouraged.

SCR01 is a meaningful helpful step toward that food security to Alaska's children.

Thank you for your kind consideration of SCR 1.

Dean Hamburg

Public Policy and Legislative Chair- - Alaska School Nutrition Association

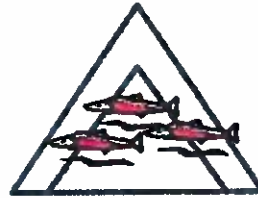
P.O. Box 2546

Soldotna, Alaska 99669 Tel: 907-714-8830

Alaska Salmon Alliance

"Working For Alaska's Salmon Future Today"

P.O. Box 586 Kenai, Alaska, 99611



February 20, 2013

Senator Click Bishop
State Capitol, Rm 115
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Support for SCR 1, a resolution relating to the establishment and operation of a state food resource development working group that embraces Alaskan self-sufficiency in food production, while insuring food security for Alaskans

Dear Senator Bishop:

The Alaska Salmon Alliance (ASA), a not-for-profit trade association established in 2011, is comprised of commercial fishermen and seafood processing companies, focused on collaborative activities that will encourage sustainability of Cook Inlet salmon fisheries. The ASA advocates for and promotes salmon policies resulting in long term opportunities and benefits to Alaskan coastal communities for future generations.

The ASA is aware of Governor Parnell's efforts to improve food security, self-sufficiency in food production and a to create a reserve of food supplies in the event of the disruption of food distribution. With only 5 percent of food consumed in Alaska being derived from Alaska sources, there is a great deal of room for improvement if Alaska is to become self-sufficient in food production. It is a known fact that retail food supplies will last less than a week if the transportation links are cut-off by some sort of mishap or disaster. It is for this reason that Governor Parnell has initiated food warehousing across the state. As envisioned in HCR 1, the new resource development working group will be working with the Alaska Food Policy Council and State agencies, ADFG, DOC, DSHS, and the Dept. of Education and Early Development to improve public access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate Alaska produced seafood, produce, vegetables and meats. Of particular interest to the ASA will be the mission of the "Dept. of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to work with the state food resource development working group to develop marketing and promotional programs to enhance and identify new and expanded opportunities for residents of the state in food production, food processing, and food distribution services."

ASA sees that SCR 1 envisions a collaboration between industry, communities and state government agencies to achieve overall sustainable food production and food security, utilizing as much as possible, products produced in-state by Alaskans, that will encourage economic development.

Sincerely,

Arni Thomson, Executive Director 907.929.0388 accrabak@earthlink.net

Brittany Hutchison

From: Dean Hamburg <DHamburg@kpbsd.k12.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 4:33 PM
To: Brittany Hutchison
Subject: SCR 1 Support Alaska School Nutrition Association Dean Hamburg

Honorable State Senator Click Bishop

State Capitol Room 115
Juneau AK, 99801
Phone: 907-465-2327 Fax: 907-465-5241

2/20/2013



SCR 1 support- ALASKA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

My name is Dean Hamburg and I serve as Public Policy and Legislative Chair for the Alaska School Nutrition Association.

I also serve as Administrator for the 83 USDA school meal programs sponsored by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Please know President Bob Eason for the Alaska School Nutrition Association, shares AKSNA support for SCR 1, as a step toward improved food security for Alaska families.

Any effort to bring a greater availability of more local Alaska sourced and/or processed foods is a good thing for Alaska's children and adults.

Those of us responsible for producing the millions of school meals provided to Alaska students each year, welcome any effort to increase the ability of Alaska food producing entities to meet the growing demand for school meal programs.

As approximately 46% of Alaska Families qualify for free or reduced priced USDA school meals, those of us challenged with meeting this need for school food supply, too much depend on sourcing foods from outside of Alaska.

We very much welcome the actions & effort represented in HCR01 as a positive step toward bringing quality foods and increased quantities of Alaska foods to Alaska children served by school meal programs across Alaska.

In school meal programs, our mission is nutrition to Alaska's children. Any actions for improved support to Alaska food security are encouraged.

SCR01 is a meaningful helpful step toward that food security to Alaska's children.

Thank you for your kind consideration of SCR 1.

Dean Hamburg

Public Policy and Legislative Chair- - Alaska School Nutrition Association

P.O. Box 2546

Soldotna, Alaska 99669 Tel: 907-714-8830

Brittany Hutchison

From: D. Robbins <drobbins.r@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 6:22 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop
Subject: Support for HCR 1 supporting locally grown food

Senator Bishop,

I agree that Alaska must encourage locally grown food and agriculture as well as realistically understand and prepare in the event that we could have our supply chain cut even for a short time.

We can do so much more to improve local agriculture and preserve local wild food products. So many do not realize that so much will grow here if proper methods are used.

Education is part of that. The local Extension Services are doing a great job but may need more support.

Sincerely,

Doris Robbins

 Doris Robbins

(907) 374-0597
1281 Overhill Dr.
Fairbanks AK 99709-6753
drobbins.r@gmail.com

drobbins@gci.net

Natural Soaps Soothing to the Skin
www.alaskasoaps.com <<http://www.alaskasoaps.com/>>

Sponsored by: Mayor DeVilbiss
Adopted: 02/19/13

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 13-027**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.1, THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION
OF A STATE FOOD RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP.

WHEREAS, in 2007, the United States Department of Agriculture reported that residents of the State spend \$1,500,000,000 annually on food; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that less than five percent of the food consumed in the State is produced locally; and

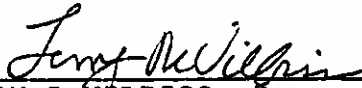
WHEREAS, the Governor has made economic development and food security critical priorities for the State; and

WHEREAS, the State's food distribution system has been disrupted in the past and remains vulnerable to disruption in the future; and

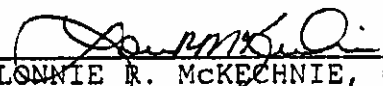
WHEREAS, increasing the amount consumers in the State spend on local food products would help drive economic development in the State's agriculture, fisheries, and wild seafood.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly supports the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 1.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 19 day
of February, 2013.


LARRY DeWIT, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Keogh, Woods, Arvin, Colligan, Salmon,
Colver, and Halter

Toghotthele Corporation



Toghotthele Corporation

Jim Sackett CEO/President

307.8 Parks Highway

PO Box 249

Nonana, AK. 99760

(907)-832-5832 phone

(907)-832-5834 fax

toghotthele@hotmail.com (email)

www.toghotthele.com

2/28/13

RE: SCR1

Senator Click Bishop
State Capitol Room 115
Juneau AK, 99801

Senator Bishop,

We are very pleased to support your resolution, SCR1, as we feel locally grown and stored food is not only healthier for us, but also supports the local economy. Being at the end of the road, food security and availability is also of critical importance. It only takes one bridge washing out on the Alcan Highway to drive prices up and reduce availability. As fuel prices rise into the future and transportation costs with them, eating locally is only going to grow more attractive with time. Thank you for bringing this issue to the attention of the Governor and the public for discussion. We support this resolution and its intent.

Jim Sackett, CEO/President
Toghotthele Corporation



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Mayor

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 745-9682 • Fax (907) 745-9669

Larry.DeVilbiss@matsugov.us

March 4, 2013

The Honorable Click Bishop
Alaska State Senator
State Capitol Room 115
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Bishop,

I am writing this letter in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, for the establishment and operation of a state food development working group. I applaud the Governor for making economic development and food security a critical priority for the state.

In 2007 the United States Department of Agriculture reported that residents of the state spend \$1.5 trillion annually on food and it is estimated that less than five percent of that food is produced locally. I would like to see more Alaska Grown food sold at the local grocery stores and more access to local products. Our residents should be able to stock their pantries and freezers with enough food to carry them through any emergency.

I also believe that we can increase the amount consumers in the state spend on local food products. It would help drive economic development in the state's agriculture, fisheries, and wild seafood production sectors. Having access to fresh and nutritious local food products would promote and contribute to healthier lifestyles for Alaskans.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry DeVilbiss".

Larry DeVilbiss
Borough Mayor

LD/r