

# HCR

# 24

<TARGET><BILL>HCR 24</BILL><SUBJECT>HCR  
24</SUBJECT><COMM>SRES27</COMM></TARGET>

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**Co-Chair:**  
House Finance Committee

**Chair:**  
House Finance Subcommittees for;  
Department of Public Safety  
Department of Law  
Alaska Court System

**Member:**  
Legislative Council  
Committee on Committees  
Legislative Budget & Audit (alt)  
House Finance Sub-Committees for:  
Governor's Office  
Legislature  
University of Alaska



**BILL STOLTZE**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
Representative\_Bill\_Stoltze@legis.state.ak.us


**Session:**  
Alaska State Capitol, Rm 515  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
Phone: (907) 465-4958  
Fax: (907) 465-4928

**District:**  
600 E. Railroad Ave.  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
Phone: (907) 376-4958  
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Toll Free: 1-866-465-4958

## Memorandum

**TO:** Senator Joe Paskvan, Co-Chair Senate Resources  
Senator Tom Wagoner, Co-Chair Senate Resources

**FROM:** Rep. Bill Stoltze 

**DATE:** April 5, 2012

**RE:** Calendar Request for CS HCR 24 (FIN) "Relating to the establishment and operation of a state food resource development working group."

Mr. Chairs,

I request that CS HCR 24 (FIN) be calendared for a hearing before the Senate Resources Committee Floor at the earliest possible time. I appreciate your consideration of this resolution dealing with Alaska's abundant food resources.

Attached is a sponsor statement, supporting material and a copy of the legislation for consideration.

Contact my staff member Darrell Breese (465-4958) for additional information.

DISTRICT 16

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KNIK RIVER ROAD • LAZY MOUNTAIN • PALMER • PETERS CREEK

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## ***Sponsor Statement for HCR 24 by Representative Bill Stoltze***

The passage of House Concurrent Resolution 24 calls of the Governor to establish a state food resource development working group with the primary goal of producing more locally grown and harvested food items to be consumed in Alaska, by Alaskans.

In addition the resolution calls on the Governor to requests multiple departments of his administration to work closely with the working group and the independent Food Policy Council to increase the production and consumption of local food items in Alaska.

Whether it be agriculture products, seafood or locally produced meat, increased local food products will lead to a healthier Alaska and enhance the economy of the entire state.

The importance and value of creating and maintaining a robust supply of Alaskan food is why the resolution is asking the Governor to establish a state food resource development working group to work with the Alaska Food Policy Council to identify resources and set policies to build a strong, sustainable healthy food system in the state.

In addition to creating the working group, this resolution calls on the governor to request the departments of his administration to work closely with the farmer's, fisherman, cattle ranchers and shellfish growers to produce more locally grown food products to consumption in Alaska, by Alaskans.

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**FISCAL NOTE**

**STATE OF ALASKA  
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. HCR 24**

**Analysis**

This Legislation has zero fiscal impact on the Legislative Affairs Agency.

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## *Summary of Changes for HCR 24*

Page 3, Line 29 and following

Added. This section calls on the Governor to have the Departments of Health and Social Services, Education and Early Development and Corrections to work with the state food resource working group to develop a nutrition policy for congregate meals in public facilities.

Page 4, Line 19 and following

Added. Includes the Department of Environmental Conservation, non-profits agencies, the USDA, and Alaska Native regional corporations in the collaborative work of the food resource development working group.

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## ALASKA FARM BUREAU, INC.

Bryce Wrigley, President  
[bjwrigley@wildak.net](mailto:bjwrigley@wildak.net)

Jane Hamilton, Executive Director  
[janehamilton99737@yahoo.com](mailto:janehamilton99737@yahoo.com)

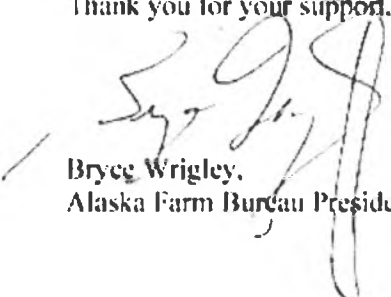
Farmers and ranchers are state policies and regulations that hinder the growth and expansion of agriculture. We want to produce food for Alaskans, but lack of a coordinated statewide effort to increase food independence affects economic growth and diversity. Every Alaskan knows that an oil economy is not sustainable long term. In spite of that knowledge, year after year we do very little to diversify our economy and nothing to enhance our ability to feed ourselves.

HCR 24 encourages the formation of a group tasked with addressing our statewide food production capabilities. It represents virtually all stakeholder organizations and focuses their efforts on food for Alaska. Not only does it bring together food production from agriculture, fishing, and wild harvest, it also includes nutrition, education, and research services.

A dynamic agriculture industry benefits Alaska in many more ways than just growing food. A vigorous agricultural policy could help resolve many of the social ills that exist in rural and remote Alaska. Agriculture connects people with the land and in the process, re-enthrones pride, industry, and self-reliance. It creates jobs, improves nutrition, and diversifies the economy.

We urge every member of the Alaska State House and Senate to support rapid passage of HCR 24. We need a food production policy that is responsive, proactive, and serves the food needs of all Alaskans. We want this working group to be empowered to work across agency lines to resolve our food production and distribution needs so that all Alaskans have access to locally grown, healthy food.

Thank you for your support.



Bryce Wrigley,  
Alaska Farm Bureau President

PO Box 760 Delta Junction, Alaska 99737 Telephone: (907) 895-4752

February 27, 2012

The Honorable Bill Stoltze  
Member of the House of Representatives  
Alaska Capitol, Room 515  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HCR No. 24 (Stoltze) – Support

Dear Representative Stoltze:

The Alaska Food Coalition is pleased to express our support for House Concurrent Resolution No. 24 relating to the establishment and operation of a state food resource development working group. The Alaska Food Coalition has been a participating member of the Alaska Food Policy Council since 2010, and supports its effort to improve Alaska's food systems.

As advocates seek to address a range of interconnected food system problems, many find that building partnerships and coordinating efforts is essential to developing effective and lasting solutions. Community food security strives to link and integrate diverse fields, including community economic development, anti-hunger, local and sustainable agriculture, public health, and nutrition. The movement encompasses a broad range of participants working on many different issues with similar goals, including the elimination of hunger and food insecurity.

We appreciate your leadership on this issue and wish to express our sincere thanks to you for working to protect, preserve and develop the state's farms, subsistence, agricultural and commercial fisheries industries. We were also thankful to Representatives Neuman, Costello, Thompson, Fairclough, Munoz, Lynn, Kerttula and Pruitt for signing up to co-sponsor HCR No. 24.

Please do not hesitate to contact Vanessa Salinas, Alaska Food Coalition Manager if you have any questions, 907-222-3103 [afc@foodbankofalaska.org](mailto:afc@foodbankofalaska.org)

Thank you for all that you do for Alaska.

Sincerely,

Gloria Benson  
Alaska Food Coalition President

cc: (House Finance) Thomas, Jr., Fairclough, Edgmon, Joule, Neuman, Wilson, T., Costello, Guttenberg, Gara, Doogan, Hawker

## Darrell Breese

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**From:** Ron Klein <ron.klein@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2012 9:15 AM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Subject:** HCR 24A - Recommended amendment

Dear Representative Stoltze,

I am a member of the Alaska Food Policy Council's Governing Board and would like to thank you for taking the lead in introducing HCR24A which asks the Governor to establish a state food resource development working group to work with the Alaska Food Policy Council. The proposed working group overlooks including the Department of Environmental Conservation which plays a key role in Alaska food policy. DEC's Food Safety and Sanitation Program, Office of the State Veterinarian, and Environmental Health Laboratory actively work with the state's food industry in ensuring the safety and viability in of Alaska's food industry locally as well as the reputation of Alaska's food industries in the national and international marketplace. In fulfilling its mission the department works closely with DNR, ADFG, DHSS, DEED, DCED, DPS, as well as with USDA, FDA, and NOAA.

I recommend HCR 24A be amended to include the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in the state food resource development working group.

The failure to recognize DEC's role and incorporate DEC into the proposed work group would lead to poor outcomes if the Governor chooses to establish a working group. I suggest the following amendment:

FURTHER RESOLVED that, if the Governor establishes a state food resource development working group, the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Governor to direct the Department of Environmental Conservation to work with the state food resource development working group to incorporate food protection and defense strategies and education programs to ensure safety in food production, food processing, and food distribution businesses.

I would be pleased to provide more information in support of the amendment if it would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Ronald S. Klein  
3316 Knik Ave  
Anchorage, Alaska 99517  
907-351-4184



American Heart Association | American Stroke Association

*Learn and Live..*

American Heart Association  
Western States Affiliate  
3700 Woodland Drive Suite 700  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
Tel 907-865-5300  
www.heart.org

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COO, Business Operations  
Sara Robertson

March 12, 2012

The Honorable Representative Stoltze, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Thomas, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 519  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Stoltze and Representative Thomas,

On behalf of the American Heart Association (AHA), I respectfully request your support of House Concurrent Resolution 24 (HCR 24). This resolution asks the Governor to establish a state food resource development working group to coordinate with the Alaska Food Policy Council to identify resources and set policies which will build a strong, sustainable healthy food system for the state. The resolution further charges the working group to collaborate with state agencies to increase economic development; encourage policies that increase the use of locally grown food in schools and other state operated institutions; establish educational programs about the nutritional value of locally harvested seafood and produce; and create a sustainable agriculture and fisheries system in Alaska.

Heart disease and stroke are the number one and four killers, respectively. Maintaining a healthy diet is critical to reducing the risk of cardiovascular diseases, stroke and other chronic diseases and conditions.

The AHA advocates for policies that will raise public awareness about the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and lifestyle and increase the availability and consumption of fruits, vegetables, and other nutritious foods, particularly in our nation's schools.

HCR 24 seeks to improve access to healthy and nutritious foods and promotes programs that will empower Alaskans to live a heart healthy life. The AHA is pleased to support this resolution.

Respectfully,

Jamie Morgan  
Senior Government Relations Director  
American Heart Association, Western States Affiliate

Cc: Members, House Finance Committee

**Darrell Breese**

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**From:** housemajority\_email@housemajority.org  
**Sent:** Friday, February 17, 2012 6:20 PM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Subject:** Email to Rep. Stoltze

+-----+  
DO NOT REPLY DIRECTLY TO THIS EMAIL: your reply will go to [enews@housemajority.org](mailto:enews@housemajority.org) To correspond with the author Hit 'Reply' or 'Forward'.  
Then change the TO: address to [bob.eason@nsbsd.org](mailto:bob.eason@nsbsd.org) If suspected Spam please forward to:  
[support@housemajority.org](mailto:support@housemajority.org)

+-----+  
From: [bob.eason@nsbsd.org](mailto:bob.eason@nsbsd.org)

Excellent Job Representative Stoltze !  
HCR 24 may have huge a impact with positive improvements to our personal and economic health, if the "state food resource development working group" is as good at their job, as you are at yours. Thank you very much for the creative foresight introduced in HCR 24.  
On another note, I was able to thank Ben Vanderweele for the excellent carrots that the Ipalook students enjoyed thanks to you bringing them to us here in Barrow. Thanks again, Bob Eason

~ Bob Eason  
Zip Code: 99654

+-----+  
DO NOT REPLY DIRECTLY TO THIS EMAIL: your reply will go to [enews@housemajority.org](mailto:enews@housemajority.org) To correspond with the author Hit 'Reply' or 'Forward'.  
Then change the TO: address to [bob.eason@nsbsd.org](mailto:bob.eason@nsbsd.org) If suspected Spam please forward to:  
[support@housemajority.org](mailto:support@housemajority.org)

## Darrell Breese

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**From:** Milli <millimom@xyz.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:19 AM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze; Rep. Paul Seaton  
**Subject:** HCR 24

Dear Rep. Stoltze and Rep. Seaton,

I strongly support HCR 24, and ask your support of this legislation. Our local economy has been so boosted by the advent of High Tunnel farming, that continues to grow. It is a way to provide healthy, fresh foods for our communities. Whatever state support we can get, will assist to continue these federal efforts.

Thank you,

Milli Martin  
P.O. Box 2652  
Homer, AK 99603

**Darrell Breese**

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**From:** kelly dufort <kellydufort@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2012 4:15 PM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Subject:** Thank You: Local Food in Schools

Dear Rep. Stoltze,  
Thank you for taking a big first step toward good food policy in Alaska by sponsoring and testifying in support of HCR 24. I too feel that it's very important to encourage Alaska Grown foods in schools and other state institutions. I also love breakfast. Thank you for your continued leadership to ensure that more people have access to healthier foods and therefore have more opportunities to become healthier, smarter people.

Yours,  
Kelly DuFort  
Anchorage, AK resident and Alaska Grown food lover since 2011

**Darrell Breese**

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**From:** sig restad <sigandcarolrestad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 01, 2012 5:49 PM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Subject:** HCR 24

Northland Pioneer Grange met last Thursday in support of HCR 24. Hope it's successfull.

**Darrell Breese**

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**From:** Nick Moe <nick@akcenter.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 01, 2012 2:16 PM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Cc:** Darrell Breese; James Armstrong  
**Subject:** HCR 24 and The School Meals Bill

Dear Representative Stoltze:

I want to send you a sincere thank you for your sponsorship and testimony on HCR 24 yesterday. I am moved by your commitment and passion for Alaska produce and seafood. I fully support the working-group as a great way to bring State institutions together to figure out how to make improvements.

Learning more about food issues the last several months has heightened my own passion and dedication to increasing local food consumption, and production of locally grown produce and seafood. And this is why I got involved to help push the school meals bill.

I see the school meals bill as an opportunity to expand and improve a program that already exists, which would incorporate more Alaska grown produce in school meals while helping feed the students who need the nutrition. While it is great to get Corrections purchasing local foods, it drives me crazy to think that our prisoners may be getting healthier food than our students. And I agree with you that nutrition in school meals is a serious issue. It amazes me that pizza is still considered a vegetable.

I apologize for the high emotions and inflammatory rhetoric from the school meals bill advocates, including myself. Though I realize while elevating the discussion of food in Alaska is important, some of us have crossed the line and resorted to personal attacks that are unfounded. I understand you have hundreds of bills waiting to be heard, even your own, and though it is difficult to make everything a priority I appreciate your efforts.

My goal is to try and calm the high emotions these next few weeks, and allow space for the process to go forward.

Thank you again for your support and work on these issues.

Nick Moe

PS The Local Food Film Festival is coming back to the Bear Tooth the first week of June. It will feature several films, local food specials and a panel discussion. If you are available and up for it, it would be great to have you on the panel. Last year was a big success with over 700 people coming through the door and I see it as a great way to increase the demand for local foods in Anchorage. This year we are expecting over 1,500 people to attend throughout the week.

--

**Nick Moe**

*Sustainable Communities Coordinator,  
Alaska Center for the Environment*

Direct: (907) 274-3662

Cell: (907) 947-8777