

MAR 14 2007

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO LEGISLATE A
REDUCTION IN FEDERALLY REGULATED FEES OR AN EXEMPTION FROM
FEDERAL STATUTES FOR TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR LIVESTOCK
FEED TO HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's livestock industry faces numerous
2 challenges that creates obstacles towards obtaining a strong
3 diversified livestock and agricultural products industry in the
4 State; and

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6 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Agriculture, in
7 2006, locally produced eggs represented approximately thirty-
8 three per cent of the total eggs sold in the State, and
9 approximately thirty to thirty-five per cent of the milk
10 consumed in the State was locally produced; and

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12 WHEREAS, within the past year, two egg farms and a dairy
13 farm have closed in Hawaii, and a dairy farm and another egg
14 farm are now threatened with closure; and

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16 WHEREAS, one of the challenges the livestock industry faces
17 is the rising cost of feed for livestock; and

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19 WHEREAS, due to its location and relative isolation, Hawaii
20 is dependent on overseas shipping for a majority of its food and
21 food production, thus, livestock farmers rely on imported feed
22 from the mainland; and

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24 WHEREAS, local poultry farmers have indicated that the
25 total cost of grain or feed for their livestock amounts to
26 seventy per cent of the cost to produce one dozen eggs, with
27 fifty per cent of that cost attributed to the transportation
28 expenses for the feed; and

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30 WHEREAS, furthermore, with increased United States
31 Department of Agriculture regulations on agricultural products,



1 livestock farmers are forced to buy and use high-protein feed
2 from the mainland to feed their livestock because grains, such
3 as corn, are too expensive to grow locally in Hawaii in the
4 massive quantities that are required by livestock farmers; and
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6 WHEREAS, the high transportation costs for feed is a
7 perennial problem for livestock farmers and the cost of
8 importing feed grains from the mainland adds more than \$100 a
9 ton to the expense; and
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11 WHEREAS, a reduction in federally regulated fees or an
12 exemption from federal statutes, such as the Jones Act, will
13 financially assist livestock farmers with their feed requirement
14 costs, enable them to remain in business, and allow them to
15 continue to provide fresh meats, dairy, and egg products for
16 local consumption; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the members of
21 Hawaii's Congressional delegation to the United States Congress
22 are requested to assist in the longevity of a diversified
23 livestock industry in Hawaii by legislating a reduction in
24 federally regulated shipping or transportation fees for
25 livestock feed or an exemption from federal statutes relating to
26 livestock feed shipping and transportation costs from the
27 mainland to Hawaii; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
31 Congressional delegation to the United States Congress.
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9.10.07
W. J. J. J.
Norman Sakamoto
Y. J. J. J.

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