

House Concurrent Resolution 170,
Senate Draft 1

and

Senate Concurrent Resolution 192

Appendix E

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ESTABLISH A TASK
FORCE TO DEVELOP LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO EFFECTIVELY PROTECT
THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IN HAWAII.

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

4

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

10

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

14

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

17

18 WHEREAS, due to its location and relative geographic
19 isolation, Hawaii relies heavily on overseas shipping for a
20 majority of its food and products for food production, thus,
21 livestock farmers rely on imported feed from the mainland to
22 satisfy their feed requirements; and

23

24 WHEREAS, local poultry farmers, for example, have indicated
25 that the total cost of grain or feed for their livestock amounts
26 to 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

29

30 WHEREAS, furthermore, with increased United States
31 Department of Agriculture regulations on agricultural products,
32 livestock farmers are forced to buy and use high-protein feed



1 from the mainland to feed their livestock because grains, such
2 as corn, are too expensive to grow locally in Hawaii to satisfy
3 the quantities that are required by livestock farmers; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the high transportation costs for feed is a
6 perennial problem for livestock farmers and the cost of
7 importing feed grains from the mainland adds more than \$100 a
8 ton to the expense; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture recognizes that the
11 longevity of Hawaii's livestock industry is threatened due to
12 the high costs of supporting this industry, and has introduced
13 in the Legislature S.B. No. 1307 and H.B. No. 1221 during the
14 2007 Regular Session that creates a livestock revitalization
15 program; and
16

17 WHEREAS, if enacted into law, the livestock revitalization
18 program will allow the Department of Agriculture to provide
19 grants to qualified producers to reimburse these producers for a
20 percentage of their feed expenses; and
21

22 WHEREAS, however, the livestock revitalization program is a
23 short-term solution to a problem that is in desperate need of a
24 permanent solution to effectively protect the livestock industry
25 in Hawaii; now, therefore,
26

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
30 Agriculture is requested to establish a task force to discuss
31 and develop long-term solutions to effectively protect the
32 livestock industry in Hawaii; and
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force includes the
35 following members:
36

- 37 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture or the
38 Chairperson's designee;
39
40 (2) The Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture and
41 Human Resources at the University of Hawaii or the
42 Dean's designee;
43



- 1 (3) The President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation or
2 the President's designee;
3
4 (4) Members representing the various sectors of Hawaii's
5 livestock industry, including but not limited to
6 dairy, beef, eggs, poultry, and pork; and
7
8 (5) Members representing the various sectors of Hawaii's
9 transportation industry, including but not limited to
10 trucking, ocean carriers, inter-island carriers,
11 barges, air cargo, and freight forwarders; and
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force:

- 14
15 (1) Examine the current policies, procedures, and
16 operations of livestock farms in Hawaii;
17
18 (2) Explore and identify best practices to develop
19 long-term solutions to effectively protect the
20 livestock industry in Hawaii;
21
22 (3) Explore any other options available to the task force
23 to develop long-term solutions to assist Hawaii's
24 livestock industry; and
25
26 (4) Establish findings, and identify and recommend
27 solutions to issues involving satisfying livestock
28 feed requirements, including the transportation costs
29 of feed; and
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
32 submit a written report to the Legislature of the task force's
33 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
34 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
35 the 2008 Regular Session; and
36

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
39 Board of Agriculture; the Dean of the College of Tropical
40 Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii; and
41 the President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.



MAR 14 2007

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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