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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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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,  
32 livestock farmers are forced to buy and use high-protein feed  
33 from the mainland to feed their livestock because grains, such



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

