

PU'UOHOKU RANCH LTD

March 11, 2008

To: Senate Ways & Means Committee
Attn: Senator Rosalyn Baker

Dear Honorable Senator Baker

I am writing in support off the request for Grant in aid for the Molokai Livestock Coop. We are at a crucial point in the development of the Molokai Livestock Coop that supports the local ranchers on Molokai and supplies a local food product to the Molokai community. I say crucial as we are now making the tough decisions that are necessary for any business to prosper on Molokai. Its been a tough go up to this point as I have been involved with the planning, construction and running of the coop since 1994. I am currently president of the board and am assisting Kammy Purdy and the other board members in developing a sound and practical business plan that is attainable. We are making many changes and making the hard decisions that are necessary to improve out financial status. Every one is making sacrifices to do this. I also manage Pu'uoHoku Ranch and am one of the few producers on Molokai that produces finished grass fed cattle for the coop to market locally.

We are getting closer to being cash positive but are still a ways off. The grant in aid would help use deal with training, staffing, utility costs, value added products, quality control and expanding our markets on Molokai to their fullest potential. These improvements would then lead to a more stable marketing option for Molokai ranchers, which add financial stability to their operations.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter and I hope you support the request for the grant in aid for the Coop and your support to create a stable and local food source will be appreciated by all.

Sincerely,

Jack H Spruance
Pu'uohoku Ranch Manager and president of the
board for MLC