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## **H.B. 5811 AN ACT CONCERNING BATTERY CAGES AND EGG LAYING HENS**

Chairman Meyer, Chairman Roy and members of the Environment Committee, Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmers Association would like to take this opportunity to provide testimony against H.B. 5811.

The Co-op was established in 1938, and for 70 years now has been the only farmer owned and operated feed mill in Connecticut. We have grown significantly over the years, and currently service over 1500 patrons and members. We offer a full line of feeds and commodities for all types of livestock while also providing free nutritional and management consulting including custom feed programs for all species.

We all believe egg production in Connecticut should be performed in a humane manner based on science and performance. We believe that consumers can make their own choice in the marketplace and that those personal preferences based on management techniques should not be mandated on our producers.

Please consider the economic impact for all poultry and livestock producers if these management protocols forced our largest producer out of state.

- Increased cost for out of state eggs
- Loss of jobs both direct at Koffkoff, other farms, and all support industries
- Loss of income to our local farmers of up to \$1.5 million in corn sales
- Increased cost of rail service

Please keep all consumers and producers in your thoughts while weighing your decision and vote against bill H.B. 5811.

Donald Domina, General Manager  
And the Board of Directors  
Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmers Association