



**KOFKOFF EGG FARMS, LLC**

**Southern New England Egg**

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Testimony of Moark, LLC - Kofkoff Egg Farms

To the Commerce Committee

Regarding SB 1078 - An Act Increasing the Gross Vehicle Weight of Vehicles Hauling Agricultural Commodities

March 12, 2013

To Senator Lebeau, Representative Perone, and members of the Commerce committee,

I am writing on behalf of Moark, LLC - Kofkoff Egg Farms to express support for bill 1078 An Act Increasing the Gross Vehicle Weight of Vehicles Hauling Agricultural Commodities. Kofkoff Egg Farms is a large egg production company with facilities located in Bozrah, Franklin, Lebanon, and Colchester Connecticut. With 4.7 million birds we are the largest commercial egg producer in Connecticut, and one of the largest suppliers of eggs to Connecticut's food stores. We employ close to 300 people in the state with an annual payroll of over 12 million dollars. Our feed mill in Franklin purchased over \$3 million of corn from local farmers in 2012. We are the largest taxpayer in many of the communities that we operate in and work with local vendors for electrical service, fuel companies, along with many others, adding millions of dollars per year into the local economy. In addition, our business supports approximately 40% of the volume on the Southeast Connecticut Rail Line.

Given the volume and nature of our business, increasing the amount of tonnage allowed for vehicles hauling agricultural commodities, as bill 1078 proposes to do, would be a great benefit to us. However, as we read the bill, it is unclear to us how "agricultural commodities" would be defined. We hope that the intent of the legislation is to benefit all levels and types of agriculture in Connecticut by allowing a broad definition of agricultural commodities which could include, for example, commodities such as mixed feed from a feed mill that would carry a mixed or "finished" feed for use in a farm's production process. If this is indeed the intent of the proposed legislation, we wholeheartedly support it and ask that the committee do the same. We are happy to be of assistance to committee members should any questions arise about this legislation or our industry. Thank you for raising this bill and for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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