

February 16, 2023

House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
132B Legislative Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA
98504-0600

RE: Vote in favor of Bill HB 1153 - Prohibiting octopus farming

Dear House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

We, the Aquatic Life Institute, a leading international not-for-profit organization, are writing to urge the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to vote in favor of Bill HB 1153.

We lead the Aquatic Animal Alliance, a coalition of over 120 organizations and individuals all over the world that work tirelessly through science-based engagement with governments, corporations, and international bodies to reduce the suffering of aquatic animals in the food system.

We have been supporting global intergovernmental organizations and country-level governments (including the FAO, UK and Canada) as they introduced welfare considerations for farmed and wild aquatic animals, and engaging with seafood certifiers to improve their animal welfare standards.

As widely documented, the potential introduction of commercial octopus farms poses significant concerns regarding animal welfare violations, further environmental degradation, and threats to public health.

By voting in favor of Bill HB 1153, you have a unique opportunity to send a powerful message to the people of Washington State, as well as internationally, that animal welfare and environmental protection are a priority for your district, and that you are leading the charge on this very timely and critical issue.

Please contact us at any time to schedule a meeting to discuss this matter further. We would be honored to support your efforts.

Sincerely,

Aquatic Life Institute
Action for Protection of Animals Africa
Action For Dolphins
AEL Advocacy
Africa Network for Animal Welfare USA

African Marine Mammal Conservation Organization
Alexandria Turtle And Wildlife Rescue
Alianima
Anima International
Anima Naturalis
ANIMAL
Animal Advocacy Africa
Animal Advocates International
Animal Aid
Animal Empathy Philipines
Animal Equality
Animal Friends Croatia
Animal Justice Canada
Animal Interfaith Alliance
Animal Kingdom Foundation
Animal Law Italia
Animal Nepal
Animal Rights Center Japan
Animal Society e.V.
Animals Aotearoa
Animals Don't Speak Human
Animal Welfare Advocates Association the Gambia
Animal Welfare Concern
Animals Australia
Animals Now
Apon Welfare
ARAF-PLATEAU DOGON
ARBA
Arusha Society for the Protection of Animals
Aware
BC SPCA
Catholic Concern for Animals
Coalition of African Animal Welfare Organisations
Compassion in World Farming
Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation
Crustacean compassion
The Dark Hobby
Deutscher Tierschutzbund
Dharma Voices for Animals
Dieren Bescherming
Djurens Rätt
Dyrenes Alliance
Education for African Animals Welfare
Essere Animali

Ethical Farming Ireland
FAADA
Factory Farming Awareness Coalition
Feedback Global
Fish Welfare Initiative
F.R.E.E
Fórum Animal
Friends of Phillip
Ghana Animal Welfare Society
Greek Animal Welfare Fund
Green REV Institute
Humane Africa Trust
The Humane Global Network
The Humane League
Humánný pokrok
In Defense of Animals
Institute of Animal Law Asia
Invisible Animals (Nevidimi Zhivotni)
Kafessiz Türkiye
Kitwe Animal Welfare Society
Kurdistan Organization for Animal Rights Protection
L214
Lady Freethinker
Lilongwe Society for Protection and Care of Animals
National Council of SPCAs
Nepal Animal Welfare and Research Center (NAWRC)
Nurture Imvelo Trust
Oikeutta eläimille
OIPA - International Organization for Animal Protection
ONG Sante Animale Afrique (SAA)
Plataforma ALTO
Planet For All
Protección Animal Ecuador (PAE)
Proyecto ALA
PAZ
RENTAS
Rwanda Animal Welfare Organization (RAWO)
SAFCEI
SAFE
Samayu
Sea First
Sentient Media
Shellfish Network
Shrimp Welfare Project

Sibanye Animal Welfare and Conservancy Trust
 Sinergia Animal
 Sống Thuần Chay
 SPCA Montreal
 SPCA New Zealand
 SPCA Selangor
 Tanzania Animals Protection Organization
 Tanzania Animal Welfare Society (TAWESO)
 Tikobane Trust
 Tourists Against Trophy Hunting
 University of Guilan
 Utunzi Animal Welfare Organization
 Vegetarianos Hoy
 Vissenbescherming
 Voices for Animals
 Voters for animals rights
 We Animals
 Welfare Footprint Project (Center for Welfare Metrics)
 Welfarm
 West Africa Centre for the Protection of Animal Welfare (WACPAW)
 WTS



animal
EQUALITY



FADA



FEED
BACK



FREE
Freedom and Respect for Every Earthling



GAWF
GREEK ANIMAL WELFARE FUND



THE HUMANE
LEAGUE



