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*House of Representatives*  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

Original: 2218

November 13, 2001

Ms. Sharon L. Grottola  
Chief Counsel  
PA Milk Marketing Board  
2301 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Ms. Grottola:

I am writing with regard to the PA Milk Marketing Board proposed rulemaking with respect to pooling of the Over-Order Premium.

I personally as chairman, and the committee as a whole, have given the matter detailed review. In an attempt to fully understand the proposal and the implications for all segments of the dairy industry that are affected, I arranged an informational meeting for the committee with Board chairperson Beverly Minor and staff. In addition, we have reviewed the extensive comments received from a multitude of interested and affected parties and have had numerous personal contacts.

What on the surface seems to be a relatively straightforward policy decision on the distribution of the premium becomes increasingly complex as one investigates the potential impact on various sectors of the industry. This fact, when combined with the inherent complexity of milk pricing and marketing in general, makes it very difficult for elected representatives to offer valid specific comments. Therefore, while it is clear that this matter is one of tremendous importance to the dairy industry of Pennsylvania, at this point in the regulatory process the committee has reached no consensus of opinion on any specific comments or recommendations with respect to the proposal.

I do, however, recommend that the Board undertake a very serious review of the detailed comments received from all parties during the public comment period as it develops the final rulemaking. The arguments put forth are by and large well presented and should be afforded the detailed scrutiny they deserve.

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MAJORITY CHAIRMAN

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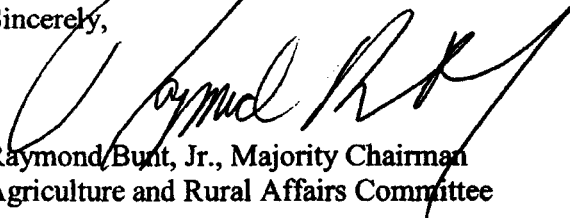
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Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with my thoughts on this proposed regulation. As chairman, and on behalf of the committee, I wish to reserve the right to comment and act upon the final form when it is promulgated.

As always, I am available to discuss it or any other matter further with the Board and I look forward to working with you as this regulatory process continues.

Sincerely,



Raymond Bunt, Jr., Majority Chairman  
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

RB/ab

cc: ✓ Robert Nyce, IRRC  
House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Members

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