

2777

Shomper, Kris

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**From:** CDoolittle [cdoo@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 9:08 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** raw milk legislation

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IRRC

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Greetings:

For the record, I am NOT a raw milk consumer, but I am a strong believer in locally-, humanely-, sustainably-produced healthy traditional foods, and in people being able to make choices about the foods they eat and feed their families.

I respectfully request that you reject proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation. Consumers of raw dairy products are well-informed people, and do not need protection from the farmer-neighbor or local market or store.

With the horrendous lack of oversight on the part of federal and state agencies in the monitoring of agribusiness, I would propose that your legislation needs to focus on those organizations, and not small farmers providing healthy products to their neighbors.

Where we need government involvement is where the suppliers or markets are no longer our neighbors but rather corporations created by the State. Food safety is not size neutral. Larger operations are more complex, problems have much more far-reaching impacts and we have no direct meaningful recourse if there is a problem. The regulation needs to focus on those operations.

Although some regulations on this latter group are necessary, the regulation could be much simpler if they were performance standards, requiring that the end product achieves a desired result. How that result is achieved is the producers' responsibility, not the State's. That would result in the State's role being to test for compliance, a function that could easily be contracted out, rather than inserting itself in micromanaging the operation.

The proposed regulation is excessive, invasive, unrealistic, onerous and unnecessary. Please reject it.

Carrie Doolittle, RN