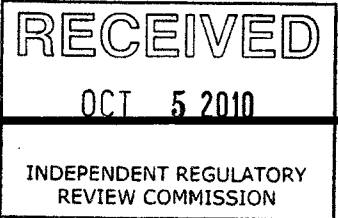


2777

Shomper, Kris



From: David Gilmartin [david_gilmartin@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 3:14 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: I oppose the proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation

I am writing to register my opposition to proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation.

For me this is a question of free speech, free association and the freedom to contract. I don't trust the "dairy industry" which pasteurizes its product, and I therefore do not use their product. But I do trust the suppliers of raw milk because I belong to a community of consumers who communicate with these suppliers and know what they are doing. I have reports on their practices, their thinking, and their reliability.

I am now informed that the proposed regulation will insert the state of Pennsylvania into the suppliers' decision concerning in which room to clean his bottles and to fill his single-service containers. This is superficially a neat idea, but I have no reason to think that you have any real insight into the necessity of this in individual cases. I will trust to the dairymen I know to make this and a thousand other decisions, and I will trust to the circle of consumers to watchdog the results, since it is we who are directly affected.

I know that the pasteurized product is dangerous. The methods adopted by those thousands of dairymen and dairy corporations cause their animals to become diseased, and prompt heavy use of drugs (antibiotics). However, under the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance, their product is not tested for pathogens. Now, that is a dangerous product. Pasteurizing is absolutely required for such milk, but I would not drink it before or after. Before, it is pathogenic. Afterwards, it is useless, because the vitamins A and D, which I need for my health, have been destroyed. And no amount of adding artificial "vitamins" will restore the health-giving properties of the original product.

I want raw milk and I am entitled to get it, no matter what anti-American interventions the FDA asserts in U.S. District Court. If you people on the IRRC, and all the other people of Pennsylvania, have the right to smoke a cigarette or drink whiskey or sky dive or drive demolition derbies, then I have the right to chose the supposed dangers of drinking raw milk.

Finally, your proposed regulation will impose arbitrary burdens on the finances of my milk suppliers. These burdens are arbitrary because they are unrelated to the conditions of individual suppliers. This is another once-size-fits-all solution to a problem that does not exist, except in the pasteurized-milk part of the industry. But it threatens the viability of some suppliers and is therefore an oppressive measure. For the ones I deal with, I am satisfied that they are directing their investments to the details of the business that are important to me.

Please do not interfere with their judgment on these matters. Please vote to reject the proposed regulation.