

2777

Shomper, Kris

---

From: ellvj [evj33@comcast.net]  
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 9:43 PM  
To: IRRRC  
Subject: Raw Milk

RECEIVED  
IRRC

2010 OCT -5 A 9:48

2423 Delmer Street  
Oakland, CA 94602  
October 4, 2010

IRRC  
14th Floor Conference Room  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

IRRC:

My name is e. v. johnson. I live in CA. I am a Raw Milk consumer & enjoyer. I raised my 2 sons on raw milk produced on a small dairy farm near the town of Sonoma, Northern CA. My children and family greatly benefitted from having fresh, high quality milk I purchased directly from the dairy from the time they were very young through adulthood. Today I continue to purchase high quality, delicious, raw milk at our local market. I am in my 60s. My husband is in his 70s. We have excellent health as verified by both our MDs & testing through our Insurance HMO. Most people assume we are 15 or more years younger than we are as we are so fit & healthy.

In California we are blessed to have many excellent small, organic farms, of which we all benefit. The land, water, & air benefit by super clean farming without pesticides, without poisons. Clean healthy animals are well cared for, loved, cherished in the best possible way give excellent highest quality farm products. We as a country need many more small farms. We need to support this wholesome, healthy way to protect the health of our people, animals, earth & environment.

Please DO NOT create additional burdens for the best people in our country, our small family farmers. I respectfully request that you reject proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation. I am an intelligent, discriminating consumer and do not need protection from my farmer-neighbor or local market or store. If they provide an unsatisfactory product or fail to appropriately correct a problem they will be out of business quickly. At that level, State regulation does not and cannot provide a higher level policing; every consumer polices that supplier with every transaction and has direct enforcement options. 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.

Again, I view the proposed regulation as excessive, and in some cases onerous and unnecessary. These flaws warrant that the proposed regulation be rejected.

Signed,  
e. v. johnson