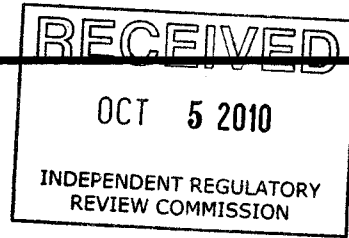


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Shomper, Kris

**From:** Fran McDermid [franmcdermid@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 10:42 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** Raw Milk regulations



My name is Helen McDermid and I am a consumer of raw milk and raw cheese products. As more and more issues have been exposed in our food system, I have been drawn to our amazing local food options in Centre County. I have regained a sense of security by engaging in conversation with our farmers and learning the growing and processing methods they use. As the raw milk debate has been occurring, it has shed light on the fact that the farmers I purchase from answer to me and their other customers directly, face-to-face each week. There are very few business sectors that require this high level of accountability. This direct, immediate accountability is vital to the sustainability of smaller farms and is much different than the distant, removed accountability of larger farmers. I have seen (and through numerous recalls, the whole country has seen) that there are major differences between smaller farms and larger farms and regulations need to recognize it as well. They are very different.

I believe a raw milk conversation with regulators and farmers is healthy. Pennsylvania has an opportunity to demonstrate how powerful an open conversation can be and that even better regulations can come out of open discussion so everyone can understand the other sides perspective and predicament.

I ask the Independent Regulatory Review Commission to please reject the regulations as proposed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Helen McDermid  
2548 Sleepy Hollow Dr  
State College, PA 16803