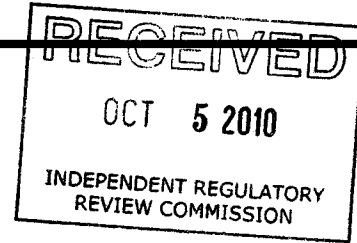


2777

Shomper, Kris

From: Jennifer Ballas [jenballas@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 10:38 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Vote No on Proposed Regulation #2777



To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Jennifer Ballas, and I have been a raw milk consumer for the last 4 years. I respectfully request that you reject proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation.

I am an intelligent and education consumer, and do not need protection from my local farmer. If they provide an unsatisfactory product or fail to appropriately correct a problem they will be out of business quickly. It is my right as a citizen to buy milk from where or who I want. I don't need government involved in my personal choice.

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.

Thank you for your support and your NO vote on this regulation. I very much appreciate you allowing me and my 4 very healthy (rarely sick with colds) children to continue to purchase raw milk from my local farmer.

Sincerely,
Jennifer A. Ballas