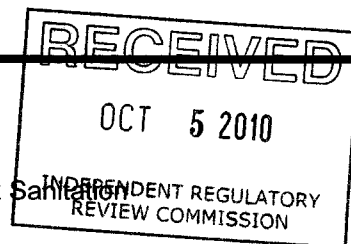


Shomper, Kris

From: Karen West [karenwest1954@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 8:25 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation



Greetings from Tennessee!

My name is Karen West and I am a raw milk consumer in Tennessee. My family and I have been enjoying raw milk for 4 years and our experience has been improved health and energy as a result. As a consumer if this controversial product, I find it necessary to be diligent in observing the practices of the farmer where I obtained the raw milk. As a small dairyman his practices are mostly manual. Manual practices, when performed correctly do not make a product unsafe. Forcing him to build additional processing space and to buy processing equipment, would put him out of business and eliminate my source of a product I depend on. And why?? He is safely producing this product now. If you are concerned with safety of milk, please test the products, but don't regulate production...

As a raw milk activist in TN, I care about this issue because PA is a model raw milk state for the rest of the nation and what happens in PA could eventually impact other states.

I respectfully request that you reject proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation. Although some regulations 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.

Thankyou for taking another look at this proposed regulation.

Sincerely,
Karen West