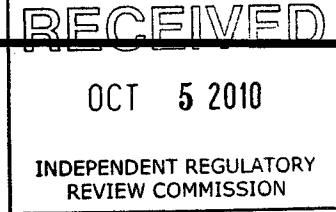


Shomper, Kris

2777



From: Miller, Sarah E.
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 5:24 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: Fw: IRRC Website - New Message

From: Independent Regulatory Review Commission [mailto:No-Reply@irrc.state.pa.us]
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 05:18 PM
To: Help
Subject: IRRC Website - New Message



IRRC

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Marie

Last Name: Cochran

Company:

Email: macochran3@gmail.com

Subject: Please reject Regulation#2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation

Message:

Dear Sir/Madam As a raw milk consumer who enjoys the products of independent Pennsylvania farmers, I respectfully request that the IRRC reject the above-referenced proposal at the Oct. 5, 2010 hearing. I endeavor to be an educated consumer and have invested time and effort into educating myself on the health and nutritional aspects of raw dairy, which I believe to be of great benefit to my family's health. In the process, I have also become aware of the economics and politics of the issue and have come to believe in the paramount importance for the public good of narrowing and focusing the state regulation of the independent farm to consumer sales of raw dairy, and indeed of other farm produce. I have been grateful to be able to purchase Pennsylvania raw milk knowing that the state of Pennsylvania monitors its quality, inspects the farms, and in so doing protects me as a consumer. However, I am concerned that the proposed regulation is overly broad, overly burdensome, and will ultimately be counter-productive to the goal of protecting the consumer, much less the farmer. There should be straightforward performance standards and testing, but beyond that, I would like to see the state's role reduced and my own role as a consumer increased in keeping the farmer to these standards. I and like-minded consumers will apply the discipline of the free market and vote with our dollar when necessary. On the flip side, I would also like to see this independent small farming industry protected and encouraged in every way, for a host of reasons. Economically, it is healthy and desirable that this small, local competition to large, impersonal agro-corporations continue to thrive. And socially, preserving small farming as a way of life is important in a civic sense because it preserves a worthy and dignified class of citizens, parents, small

employers, and productive members of the community. Please take bold action tomorrow in defense of your local farmers and their consumers such as myself, by rejecting Regulation #2777. Sincerely, Marie Cochran