

Shomper, Kris

From: RO LERARIO [rmlerario@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 6:17 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: DISAPPROVE "proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160."

I respectfully request that you reject proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation. I'm an intelligent, discriminating consumer and do not need protection from our farmer-neighbors or local markets. If they provide an unsatisfactory product, or fail to appropriately correct a problem, they won't last long in business. At that level, State regulations does not and cannot provide a higher level of policing. Every consumer polices the suppliers with every transaction and has direct options. We need government involvement when suppliers or markets are corporations, not local, independent businesses. Larger operations are much more prone to far reaching issues and impact and as consumers, that's where we have no direct recourse. That's where regulations should be focused, not on the local businesses.

The proposed regulation adds additional hurdles and costs to raw milk producers under the guise of public health and safety, some problematic enough to possibly put some farmers out of business. 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. These proposed regulations have nothing to do with protecting the public health but instead subject raw milk producers to unnecessary expenses that will make it financially difficult to continue in business.

Rosemary L'Erario
Eastampton NJ

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