Shomper, Kris

From:

Maywoodfarminc [maywoodfarminc@aol.com]

Sent:

Tuesday, October 05, 2010 8:41 AM

To: Subject: IRRC; wchirdon@state.pa.us Comment on Proposed Milk Regulation RECEIVED

DCT 5 2010

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

Letter re: proposed milk regulation

There is this idea that regulations produce safe food. If that were the case, the US should have no problems, as we have the most regulated food system on the planet. Yet, we have millions of eggs, tons of beef, truckloads of produce, etc., recalled with sufficient frequency that people are concerned but not surprised. This is because not all regulations are about safety. They are about control for the benefit of a few.

We do not need #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation, particularly those sections dealing with raw milk. Raw milk serves a customer that is closely connected to the farmer producing the food products. Consequently, there is a continuous policing and feedback process that assures that customers receive a safe, nutritious product, produced in a manner that is acceptable to them. Farmers cannot stay in business if they fail to meet their customers' needs. Food safety is far more important to us than it could ever be to any bureaucrat. Government regulations cannot add to that process or provide a higher degree of safety. They can however, hamper it which the proposed regulation does. Is that its purpose?

My food is important to me and I have the right to purchase the food I choose from whom I choose. This is not a privilege granted by government. It is time for regulations to be based on facts and reality, not special interest profits. You have a small segment of farming that is succeeding at meeting the needs of its customers. Why not nurture it rather than harass it as the raw milk portion of the proposed regulation does?

Therefore, I respectfully request that proposed regulation #2777 Department of Agriculture 2-160: Milk Sanitation, be withdrawn or rejected.

Thomas W. Maurer, Jr.