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August 26, 2009

Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
333 Market Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Commission,

I live in the most fertile non irrigated land in the country and I love it. I grew up on a farm in Berks County and know the value of a good farmer placed on good land. In this day and age, however, "Good Land" must be re-worked to produce "Good Food". I have done my research and have found good land management farmers that produce vital nutrient food to sustain good health through traditional dieting. Grass fed animals without antibiotics, and/or hormones that profit pockets instead of people. Land that is managed without the use of pesticides so as to produce vital nutrient food for sustained human health. For this reason I support direct farm-to-consumer transactions in raw milk, raw dairy products and other farm products.

The purpose for my letter is directed to the whole of Section F that deals with the proposed revisions to the administrative regulations implementing the milk sanitation laws concerning raw milk and raw dairy products. I am writing to urge you to support the following changes to the proposed regulations.

1. Exempt direct transactions from the producer to the consumer from the regulations.

Direct farm-to-consumer transactions in raw milk, raw milk products and farm produce is booming in Pennsylvania. Improving access to same will only improve Pennsylvania's economy.

Direct transactions between the producer and the consumer are private in nature and do not impact the health, safety or welfare of the "public".

Local customers, such as me, know their food source and the farmer has every incentive to produce a quality product so that he keeps his reputation and his customers. This relationship is far more accountable than any created by government regulations.

States that allow the unlicensed sale of raw milk direct from farmer to consumer, such as Missouri and Nebraska, have a good track record for food safety

2. Specify that the testing "for pathogens" should actually be testing "for pathogens that cause illness in humans. Many bacteria are called "pathogens," but not all of them cause illness in humans. It is not reasonable to use state resources to test for things that don't

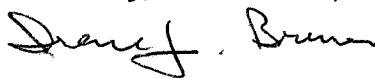
cause illness in people and that therefore pose no public health threat. Shutting down a farmer for something that poses no human health risk hurts the farmer, the consumer, and the local economy.

I have a wonderful relationship with my local farmers. There is an incentive to produce a quality product. There is a mutual accountability, along with a good track record for food safety that I have relied on for these last eleven years. I can testify that the quality of my raw food consumption has done my body good. I am sixty years old and in very good health.

Please exempt "direct transactions from producer to the consumer" from "across the board" regulations. Section F of the milk sanitation laws regarding raw milk and raw dairy products should be reviewed and rewritten. This is a vital concern for many Pennsylvania raw milk and raw dairy product consumers.

Thank you for considering the seriousness of this issue and act accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Irene J. Briner".

Irene J. Briner  
355 Valley View Drive  
New Holland, Pennsylvania 17557

Cc: Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
Cc: My legislators.