

This is a copy of a letter I sent to the PDA. to change the proposed revisions to the regulation of raw milk. Please note how much income may be affected by these revisions. *to your state*

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Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Food Safety
Division of Milk Sanitation
Attn: Paul Hoge

RECEIVED
2009 SEP 28 AM 10:05
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Sir,

I am a resident of Baltimore, Maryland but every week I travel 30 miles one way to purchase raw milk and other products from a Pennsylvania farmer. He is careful, clean, and his products are of excellent quality. I pay a premium price and go to such effort because I cannot get raw dairy in my state. Why do I think it's worth doing this every week? The improvement of my health and that of my family is such that I would gladly travel twice as far and pay twice as much as I do now.

I am writing to you because of proposed revisions to the PDA's administrative regulation implementing the milk sanitation laws (Section F) that deal with raw milk and raw dairy products. I am concerned that my ability to purchase quality raw dairy will be compromised. I urge PDA to make the following changes to the proposed regulation.

1. Exempt direct transactions from the producer to the consumer from the regulation. Almost \$200 of my money and my family's goes to the Pennsylvania economy every week through this private transaction. There is no danger to the public's health, safety or welfare. This farmer is accountable to me. I know where to go if I have an issue and he has a big incentive to produce quality products if he wants to stay in business. For the record, states that allow the unlicensed sale of raw milk direct from the farmer to the consumer like Missouri and Nebraska have good track records for food safety.
2. Testing for "pathogens" should be "for pathogens that cause illness in humans". One of the reasons for buying raw dairy is the wonderful beneficial bacterium found in the milk. They contribute to the health of the drinker and do not cause illness. It is unreasonable to me to test for "pathogens" that do not harm to humans and would end up shutting my farmer down. Why would you waste your resources to test for things that don't cause illness and would limit your own state's income?

Please consider the changes to the proposed revisions. There are seven of us in my family that purchase raw dairy products from Pennsylvania and I know of hundreds more in Maryland who belongs to my buying club alone and we grow every year.

Thank you,

Cindy McCubbin
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