

2777

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Food Safety
Division of Milk Sanitation
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9408

RECEIVED

2009 OCT -8 AM 8:27

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hoge,

Raw milk sales deserve an exemption from the proposed sanitation regulations. I urge PDA to make the following changes to the proposal:

Please exempt direct transactions from the producer to the consumer from the regulations, because

1. Direct farm-to-consumer transactions in raw milk and other farm products have been a boon to the Pennsylvania economy. Improving access to raw milk will improve Pennsylvania's economy.
2. Direct transactions between the producer and the consumer do not impact the "public's" health, safety or welfare and are purely private in nature.
3. States that allow the unlicensed sale of raw milk direct from farmer to consumer have a good track record for food safety.
4. Testing "for pathogens" should actually be testing for "pathogens that cause illness in humans." Not all "pathogens" 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.
5. Shutting down a farmer for something that poses no human health risk hurts the farmer, the consumers, and the local economy
6. And, most importantly for me and members of my family, we can not eat pasteurized, homogenized dairy. Yet, we thrive on raw milk and dairy products! Raw dairy products are easier to digest and contain nutrients that help us with our allergies. If these products become unavailable, our health will be adversely affected.

Thank-you for your consideration and please help us to keep access to delicious, healthy raw dairy products.

Sincerely,

Andree Santini
Andree Santini

cc Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Comr
Robert Wonderling
Richard Grucela

Santini
1616 Arrowwood Dr.
Easton PA 18040

DELIVERED
OCT 3 2009