

Testimony by Joel Malus of Fargo, North Dakota, January 2025

In support of H.B. 1131

Raw milk has been the best dairy choice for me. I am clinically allergic to some dairy products.

Consuming raw milk has NEVER caused me any negative health reactions. I lived next to a dairy farm in another state, and would help myself to the refrigerator tank, leaving my payment for the farmer.

Being able to consume raw milk has allowed me to enjoy the benefits of milk in my diet.

I have also churned my own butter, and used that in food preparation. I would gladly purchase other raw dairy products from farmers, allowing them to support their operations.

Passage of HB 1131 would enable farmers to make a better living. Making products like raw yogurt and raw kefir generate a better return for the farms than do sales of fluid raw milk. There is booming demand not only for raw milk but for other raw dairy products as well.

H.B. 1131 supports consumer choice. The consumption of all raw milk products is legal in North Dakota. Consumers should be able to obtain those products from North Dakota farmers.