



North Dakota House of Representatives

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COMMITTEES:
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To the Honorable Chair and members of the House Ag Committee,

I'm in support of house bill 1515 for the sale of raw milk to a consumer.

Raw, unpasteurized milk by nature provides higher levels of essential nutrients like probiotics, vitamins, good gut-benefiting bacteria, and immunoglobins that support antibody resistance efforts in the human body. Raw milk also yields healthy digestion enzymes that are not found in pasteurized milk. Lactose intolerance is caused by the removal of these enzymes in raw milk.

I also support the addition of "safety standard" labeling on the product for consumer risk measures. This provides a sort of accountability in terms of clean, standardized practices of not only the environment of the lactating mammals, but also the processes involved in the handling and packaging of the food product. Oftentimes "raw milk" scares people because of the potential illnesses caused by naturally occurring bacteria in the colloid (listeria, salmonella, even tuberculosis), forgetting that open air environments and germs from the human-contact production side also play a huge influence in carrying these potential diseases.

Furthermore, allowing family-owned dairy farmers creates an initiative that continues to fiscally support our North Dakota communities by keeping things Local.

Because of these reasons, I again recommend a do pass vote on HB1515.