

Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee.

My name is Alan Qual and I dairy farm with my brother and our sons at Lisbon, North Dakota. I am opposed to HB1515.

I also serve as the Secretary of the Milk Producers Association of North Dakota (MPA). The MPA Board of Directors voted on February 23rd, 2023 to oppose HB1515 as it passed the N.D. House.

The current form of the HB1515 for Raw Milk has no standards or oversight by the N.D Health Department or N.D. Agriculture Commissioner.

Grade A milk meets many minimum standards for safety before it can be sold off the farm for pasteurization. Pasteurization kills the bacteria and pathogens in milk. This bill allows the sale to the consumers of North Dakota with no consideration given for their safety.

I do respect an individual's freedom to choose what they consume, but feel the health of children and immune compromised North Dakota citizens must be protected.

The previously proposed amendments to HB1515 would have provided safety requirements similar to South Dakota's enacted raw milk law. The amendments were not included when the bill came out of the House Committee hearing.

North Dakota has guidelines for other foods sold directly to the consumers and this bill exempts raw milk sold to North Dakota consumers from everything. This is an unsafe plan.

Please send HB1515 to the Senate with a do not pass recommendation as it is currently written.

Alan Qual
Qual Dairy
Lisbon, N.D.
(701)-680-1210