

Chair Witt and Members of the Committee:

There is a substantial demand for raw butter, and it continues to grow. As a nutritionist, I recognize the immense benefits for many people. Allowing it to be sold in Oregon would enable Oregon dairy farmers to increase their income. Plus, consumers would not have to travel to California, which is where raw butter and dairy is currently available.

Raw dairy, and raw butter in particular, has proven to be very safe. The CDC's tracking database does not show a single case of foodborne illness outbreak due to commercially produced raw butter from 1998 to 2016. And there haven't been any outbreaks since 2016.

I hope you'll support this bill.

Thank you,
Julene Montgomery