

I am a health care provider in Springfield, OR and I promote the use of food in its best, most unadulterated form, usually raw.

1. Commercially available raw butter has an excellent track record for food safety:

- a. CDC's foodborne illness database data: zero outbreaks of illness 1998 to 2016 and none reported since
- b. 11 other states allow for the sale and or distribution of raw butter, including California where one dairy - Raw Farm - formerly Organic Pastures Dairy Company - has sold over 2 million pounds of raw butter over the past 20 years without incident.

2. Passage of HB 2612 would better enable dairy farmers to make a living and could help stop or reduce the decline in the number of Oregon dairy farms.

- a. 1992 Oregon had 1,900 farms with dairy cows (USDA data).
- b) Today Oregon has 194 dairy farms (Oregon Dairy Farmers Association)

3. Consumer demand for locally produced foods like raw butter continues to grow; I promote this to my patients.

a) OR Dairy industry dollars going out of state - Oregon residents travel elsewhere, for example to California, to purchase raw butter. Passage of HB 2612 would keep more of the food dollar within the state.

Thanks for your consideration.

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