

Submitter: Kay Kelly

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB2616

Dear Committee,

Please support HB 2616 regarding the sale of raw milk. My family has been ordering through a herd share and our health has greatly benefitted. Even our healthcare providers are amazed at the results. My teeth no longer ache constantly and I have no issues tolerating raw milk and dairy products.

In addition, it is more important than ever to support our Oregon farm families which provide additional local food for Oregonians. As we've seen in recent years that supply chains can be easily disrupted.

Please also consider the following points as written by the Weston A. Price foundation:

1. Raw milk has a good track record for safety; a recent study found that as raw milk consumption has increased in the U.S., the number of foodborne illnesses attributed to raw milk has remained flat or gone down. The testing, certification and food safety plan requirements for producers selling in retail stores assure a supply of safe, clean milk. Raw milk products like butter and kefir have little or no record of making anyone sick.
2. The bill increases access for consumers to raw milk products and increases the number of raw milk products they can now legally purchase.
3. The bill increases markets for micro-dairies and can potentially help some of the dairies that are currently producing raw milk for pasteurization remain in business. Fewer than 200 Grade A dairies remain in Oregon today.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Kay Kelly