

Submitter: Kim Vicklund

On Behalf  
Of:

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

Measure: HB2616

Dear Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Hartman and Owens, and members of the committee,

My name is Kim Vicklund and I'm excited to write in support of HB 2616.

For years, I've had to buy raw milk in Oregon from a Herd Share program.

I want the option to buy raw milk products from grocery stores.

It is ridiculous to find only processed milk products in stores, when raw is healthier for families.

I have been waiting for years for raw milk to be sold in grocery stores like it used to.

Myself and hundreds of other families get their raw milk through herd shares. We

don't get sick. Raw milk making people sick is not a viable arguing point any longer.

A lot of food makes people sick that has been cleared by the government.

If passed, HB 2616 will ensure that Oregon producers are able to meet the growing demands for raw milk in our state safely and effectively, by implementing nationally-recognized testing, safety and risk mitigation measures and giving cow dairies the same opportunities that goat and sheep dairies already have.

For licensed dairies, raw cow's milk is currently off the table. Oregon allows the retail sale of raw milk from sheep and goats, but not from cows — no other state makes this distinction in the retail market. It's time to fix this discrepancy and improve the safety, testing and training standards for raw milk production across the board — whether you're milking goats, sheep or cows.

Oregon's raw milk policies are out of date and it's time for a change. This legislation will raise the raw milk standards in Oregon and ensure better transparency, access and accountability across the board.

I urge your support for HB 2616.

Thank you,