



Support and engage people directly impacted by foodborne illness and mobilize them to help prevent illness and death by driving change through advocacy, collaboration and innovation.

Stop Foodborne Illness

February 18, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Stop Foodborne Illness (STOP), the national non-profit public health organization dedicated to prevention of illness and death due to foodborne pathogens, is “The Voice for Safe Food”. STOP’s consumer advocates are individuals and families that have been impacted by severe foodborne illness. We know that illness and death is preventable when appropriate food safety and preventive procedures are instituted.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declare on its website that “pasteurization is one of public health’s most effective food safety interventions ever.” The historic advancement of food safety due to the elimination of harmful bacteria in milk is undeniable. Equally indisputable is that children consume the highest volume of milk – almost twice as much as adults - according to the United States Department of Agriculture’s website.

Children do not get to choose what they consume; parents purchase and provide their food. However, it is children who may suffer permanent injury and possibly death when parents make uninformed choices and do not purchase the safest products for their families. This issue is about safety and the safety of those that are most vulnerable.

Science has proven that severe injury and death are avoidable with pasteurization. Please do not remove this layer of protection for the citizens of Alaska. STOP strongly urges the State of Alaska’s Department of Environmental Conservation to NOT change Title 19 in the Administrative Code.

Sincerely,

Mitzi D. Baum
Chief Executive Officer