

Lindell Klebesadel

I am writing as a consumer, well aware that any food production and sales needs to follow certain guidelines in order to maintain safety standards. I am also acutely aware that Alaska is at an extreme disadvantage when it comes to food security. I am a "raw" milk user as of recently. I will admit that I was very hesitant at first due to my concerns about safety, but my concerns about the possibility of not being able to purchase milk from the grocery store overcame my concerns for safety. However, no one in my household has become ill from consuming "raw" milk and I feel confident they will not because I believe the farmer from whom I have purchased a herd share will do her very best to make sure that I get a healthy and safe product. I believe most, if not all, of our Alaskan farmers operate in this manner. Therefore I am asking that the proposed regulation 18 AAC 32.70 be scrapped, or be amended to make sure that farmers offering herd shares will in no way be affected by this proposed regulation. As a state we should be making it easier for our farmers to produce, and not adding "impossible" regulations. Thank you!