

## Jeanette Pedginski

I agree with the comments made by Amy Seitz of the Alaska Farm Bureau.

These regulations are cost-prohibitive for most small farmers because of access to veterinary care.

These proposed regulations leave farmers vulnerable to law-suits.

No regulation to keep raw milk products clearly in a separate area from pasteurized products in a grocery store allow unaware consumers to purchase raw milk products, even if they are labeled.

Herd shares allow the consumer to see the animals and conditions of the farm where their raw milk is produced, thus encouraging farmers to be careful with cleanliness.

I remember two outbreaks of illness from *Campylobacter* being reported by the Peninsula Clarion here on the Kenai Peninsula. At the time, I felt very bad for the farmer, but also wished for more inspections and accessibility to reasonably priced veterinary care so local dairy production does not get a bad name. It only takes one purchase of a sub-par product to turn a consumer off from a certain brand or product forever, even if that consumer does believe in "shopping local." I do believe in the health benefits of raw milk, but personally would like to see where the cow or goat is being milked and how the milk is handled. Herd shares are sufficient for now, with more support from the State for Grade A dairies.