

Tiffany Shock

Alaskans deserve to have the right to make the same choices for their bodies that other states allow their citizens to choose. I am immunocompromised and have drunk raw milk from cow share milk for more than a year now. Some people have less GI issues with raw milk and milk replacements are pricy. Despite my lack of an immune system, I have not been sick at all. If this reg passes, I will be forced to continue paying exorbitant prices for cow share milk that is not regulated at all. It would behoove the state to be a part of regulating raw milk instead of making citizens choose the completely unregulated path. Raw milk may also be processed at home or lightly pasteurized before being sold. As it stands, Alaska only has access to ultra pasteurized milk which is not suitable for making many culture products including things like clotted cream and some cheeses, which require raw milk. The state could easily regulate raw milk by requiring microbiological reports on it rather than completely doing away with it. Alaska is losing its heritage by completely outsourcing milk production which may also harm us because of our limited access to the supply chain. Do not kill the dairy industry in Alaska. I worked in microbiology for years and I support freedom to drink raw milk.