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The way this is written, will not help strengthen our food security. It will only hurt it, with over reaching rules and procedures that do not fit Alaska's small dairy farmers.

Herd shares work amazingly well for Alaska. It keeps locally produced fresh milk in our small, spread out communities.

Farmers here already have the increased costs of feed, bedding, housing, vet fees, etc, for just functioning in Alaska. Farmers here aren't making it rich, and most have to work full time jobs just to afford to farm, feed their families and keep a roof over their heads. Adding more loopholes, expenses and fees, would sink them and effectively drive them out of producing anything.

With this, or any other regulation involving agriculture in Alaska, the laws, rules and regulations need to clearly, blatantly and concisely protect the small producers. Those small producers are the backbone of Alaska's agricultural food independence.

We've seen grocery store shelves empty so many times in the last 2 years, because of out of state supply chain issues... please be very careful in what you condemn the people of Alaska to, if you make it next to impossible for producers to produce in-state.

Please also take into consideration, the way food cost are starting to rise. The cost of fertilizer alone is set to increasing by approx 40%... fertilizer is used on every crop, whether that crop is going to be sold in grocery stores for humans, or if it's hay for livestock. This is going to affect every single person, not just in Alaska, but in the United States.