

Judy Marks

From: Erin Renard <enrenard1@gmail.com>
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To: Judy Marks
Subject: Testimony on SB 308

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To: Chairman Dan Kerschen and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

My name is Doug Renard and I stand here today in opposition to SB 308. The proposed new labeling and advertising of raw milk and raw milk products. My wife, Erin Renard and I own and operate the Good Karma Micro Dairy, LLC, in Russell County. We milk Jersey cows and Nubian goats and consume and sell the ungraded raw milk and ungraded raw milk products. Our dairy adheres to all current Kansas Public Health statutes and all other State laws.

Our consumers understand the raw milk and raw milk products they purchase from us. They understand the risks of eating raw food, and they also understand the benefits of these raw products. They enjoy the taste. They enjoy first-hand knowledge of where their food originates, and they enjoy knowing the cows and goats like they are their own^[ER1].

Senate Bill 308 will have a direct negative effect on our small business in several ways. First, the proposed 37 word, 237 character labeling statement would be expensive to produce and could be larger than the container of the product itself. Secondly, Section 2 (m) (2) of the bill states that the definition of "milk" does not include milk or milk products produced for on-farm retail sale. A reasonable interpretation of this paragraph would be the liquid I extract from cow and goat udders and sell retail on our farm can no longer be described as milk. I would be forced to come up with an appropriate, non-Orwellian name for our product. Raw milk is the purest form of milk. Pasteurization of milk results in an adulterated product, a "clean slate" food requiring nutrients to be added.

The small dairies in this state provide a valuable service to the consumers of Kansas. These milk consumers make the informed choice of what and where to buy the food they feed to their families. Some choose raw milk, some choose pasteurized milk, but regardless of the reasons for their milk buying decisions we farmers will continue to provide a relatively safe and wholesome food product.

In conclusion, I thank the Chairman and this committee for the opportunity to share my views and I would respectfully ask this committee to kill this unnecessary bill.

Doug Renard
Good Karma Micro-Dairy, LLC
Russell, KS