

## SB24-043, On the Sale of Raw Milk

My name is Nancy Eason. I am a long-time Chapter Leader in Fort Collins for the Weston A Price Foundation, which has advocated for raw milk access over the last twenty years.

My husband and I and our three children and now our eight grandchildren have been enthusiastic consumers of raw milk in Colorado for more than twenty years. So we are excited to see this effort to expand access to raw milk in Colorado and we thank the sponsors of this bill and everyone who has been working on this.

I would like to wholeheartedly support this bill, but in the spirit of wanting to avoid unintended consequences I have some reservations and amendments to suggest.

1. Even though this bill should not have any effect on our current herd share law, I would like to see that spelled out clearly in this bill by adding a statement like this to Section (1)(a) on p. 3 (lines 1-3): "Nothing in this bill affects or will affect the implementation of herd share agreements in Colorado as delineated in current law." I want to make sure this option is still available if this bill passes.
2. On p. 3 lines 17-18 regarding the transport of raw milk and the requirement to keep it at or below 40, would a cooler with ice be sufficient, or would this require a refrigerated vehicle?
3. Bottom of p. 3 line 27 – lines 1-2 top of p. 4 and lines 16-20 p. 4: The word **any** (line 27) troubles me. What safeguards will be in place to make sure such requirements are not overly burdensome? I would like to see additional language in this bill requiring the input of farmers and consumers in this rule making process. Commenting on proposed rules is not enough input; they need to be involved in the entire rule-making process.
4. p. 4 lines 11-15: I ask that you delete these lines starting with the words "Consuming raw foods..." "This product contains unpasteurized milk" is sufficient.
5. p. 5 line 17: The words "On its own motion" concern me. Could this be abused in the future? Also, there should be a statement here protecting producers from random or frivolous unfounded complaints, something like: "upon receipt of a well-founded or documented complaint by a third party." I know the intention of this bill is to not overly burden or threaten producers but rather to expand access to raw milk, so I think you want some clarification here.
6. p. 5 line 3: Others have already addressed the excessive nature of the penalty so I won't do so here other than to agree that this must be amended.
7. Finally, there is no appeal process or redress outlined in this bill in the event that a producer is found to be in violation. We have seen in other states that lab results can vary and other issues arise in these kinds of cases, and the producers have no way to defend themselves. I urge you to add a statement that would provide a means of doing so.

Thank you for taking this on! I will fully support this bill if it addresses the concerns I've listed.