

Dear Economic Affairs Interim Committee

I am sending you information on as to why the short date on Montana milk needs to be changed. The problem is John Sullivan told the Department of livestock to change it. The Department ignored Mr. Sullivan when he said Montana milk has no information for the consumers of Montana. Why not they must think it is a good deal for Montana Families to spend their hard earned money and then pour it down the drain. How would any Montana consumer find out how long the milk the just bought last for? I have lived here my whole life and thought that was the expiration date. Montana milk is produced at the Meadow gold plant in Great Falls Montana shipped to Idaho and sold cheaper. They also tell the Idaho consumers how long the milk is good for. The only difference is the dating so our Montana 12 day rule has to be what is keeping the price of Montana milk higher. Our own Department of Livestock is playing games with Montana families bank accounts. Meadow Gold has spent lots of money fighting to keep the 12 day rule in Montana. I guess we know who is making all the money Meadow Gold, aren't they out of Texas? Meadow gold fought to get involved into the law suit in Montana District Court it is apparent they are not fighting for their own consumers in Montana. Don't you think there have been technological advances since 1980 when the rule was put into place? Dairy gold is getting up to 27 days in modern day plants.

Who are you going to stand up for Montana Families or Meadow Gold?

I hope the media does some investigating into this matter. I hope you get to give your stance on one of the biggest scams in the state of Montana.

I find it ironic that there is no rules on milk shipped out of state why is that? If this is such a good deal for Montana Families why not help our neighbors?

Thank you for your consideration,

Rick Meisinger
Missoula, MT