

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: Letter for Economic Affairs Committee

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From: johnnys
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 8:48 AM
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: Letter for Economic Affairs Committee

March 26, 2014

To The Economic Affairs Committee:

I am writing to ask your committee to support keeping the 12-day milk rule. After hearing that the committee was thinking about changing this rule, I was upset. I like the fact that the milk I purchase is fresh, but I really like knowing that I am going to have time to drink it. If you extend the dates, the milk producers are not going to be as concerned about getting the milk directly from the plant to the store shelf. It will spend a lot of its useful life at the production plants, warehouses or on the back of a transport truck. It will be older by the time we even get a chance to purchase it, especially if our local stores start to bring it in from out-of-state. We are from a small area and have seen this happen with other products.

It is just myself and husband at home now, there are many times that it will take us a week or better to consume milk. If you change that date, we won't have that time. It seems that you are just putting the cost of throwing away milk directly on the consumer who has no control in how closely our stores do their ordering. I question the reason of any retailer who is trying to get rid of this rule. Shouldn't they be concerned with providing a fresh product more than the cost to their bottom line. If they have a lot of waste, they have the option to change the amount they order?

When I was asked some of the reasons that your committee was even considering changing the rule, I heard the argument that other states have different dates. I personally don't care – I think that it is wonderful that Montana is concerned about providing fresh and tasty milk. I'll tell you what I always tell my kids, "don't try to be average, but instead work to be the best at what you do." So I ask, what is wrong with demanding that we have the best quality milk, not just average?

Sincerely,
Julie Majerus
Montana Consumer, Taxpayer and Voter
12 Johnny Coal Rd.
Roundup, MT 59072