



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

523 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-3182
Phone: 605-773-5425
FAX: 605-773-5926
www.state.sd.us/doa/

December 17, 2009

Interim Rules Review Committee
Capitol Building, 3rd Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Attention: Raw Milk Rules Hearing, December 21, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

I attended the November 17, 2009 public hearing for the proposed rules regarding raw milk and have reviewed the oral comments, as well as the subsequent written comments submitted by the November 27, 2009 deadline. Based on the comments and discussion with citizens, staff and health officials, I have decided to withdraw the proposed rules regarding raw milk at this time.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture has a statutory obligation to protect human health and safety in the area of milk. I believe contaminated raw milk's documented negative impact on human health and safety merits continued attention and I will seek to continue the discussion with the affected parties to develop a regulatory regime that responsibly protects public health.

Sincerely,

Bill Even
South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture

BE:nbs