

UNITED TO GROW FAMILY AGRICULTURE

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SB 308

Written testimony in support of SB308 as amended by the Senate Donn Teske, President, Kansas Farmers Union

House Committee on Agriculture

3-16-20

Representative Highland, Ranking Minority Member Carlin

Kansas Farmers Union stands in support of SB 308 as amended by the Senate, An act concerning agriculture; relating to milk, cream and dairy products; on-farm retail sale of milk; labeling and advertising requirements.

Kansas Farmers Union believes the current labeling requirement for selling raw milk is adequate and that the practice offers an opportunity niche-market for value-added sales of raw milk & dairy products to a small, select group of consumers who know what they are buying and choose to take the associated risks of consuming un-pasteurized dairy products onto themselves.

As introduced SB 308 re-introduces legislation that would allow direct marketing of milk, but at a much greater challenge to the producer, making signage that was almost onerous. While not necessarily opposed to warning labels indicating the health risks associated with drinking raw milk, we feel 308 as introduced went too far.

To deny the opportunity for a willing seller to sell to a knowing willing buyer seems contrary to our entrepreneurship spirit here in Kansas.

SB308 as amended does a very good job of addressing both the opportunities and concerns associated with marketing raw dairy products.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony,

Donn Teske