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MAR 12 2009

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
 STATE HOUSE ROOM 207
 CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301
 (603) 271-3632 FAX: 271-3633



JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE COUNCILORS:
 BEVERLY A. HOLLINGWORTH

RAYMOND S. BURTON
 RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK

JOHN D. SHEA
 DEBORA B. PIGNATELLI

March 3, 2009

Deputy Administrator
 USDA/AMS Dairy Programs
 Stop 0231 Room 2971
 1400 Independence Avenue SW
 Washington, DC 20250-0025

Dear Deputy Administrator:

I write as a long time serving publicly elected official here in the State of New Hampshire- 19 years as Grafton County Commissioner and 31 years as Executive Councilor District One. I am asking you and your agency to hold public hearings on the proposed elimination of the producer-handler provision for smaller dairy farms.

The USDA on January 30, 2009 received proposals to eliminate the producer-handler provision in all federal milk marketing orders. This is very unfair to the smaller dairy farms in the rural areas of America!

These smaller dairy farms have operated for many years herein the rural areas of New Hampshire and need to have every consideration available to remain in business.

My thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Raymond S. Burton

Executive Councilor
 District One

c.c. Governor John Lynch
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DISTRICT ONE	DISTRICT TWO	DISTRICT THREE	DISTRICT FOUR	DISTRICT FIVE
RAYMOND S. BURTON 338 RIVER ROAD BATH, NH 03740 TELEPHONE 747-3662	JOHN D. SHEA 8 McINTIRE ROAD NELSON, NH 03457 TELEPHONE 847-9008	BEVERLY A. HOLLINGWORTH 209 WINNACUNNET ROAD HAMPTON, NH 03842 TELEPHONE 926-4880	RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK 1060 RAY STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 624-1655	DEBORA B. PIGNATELLI 22 APPLETREE GREEN NASHUA, NH 03062 TELEPHONE 888-5245

NH Commissioner of Agriculture, Lorraine Merrill
US Senator Judd Gregg
US Senator Jeanne Shaheen
US Senator Patrick Leahy
US Senator Bernie Sanders
Congressman Paul Hodes
Congressman Carol Shea Porter
Congressman Peter Welch
State Senator Deb Reynolds
State Senator Matt Haude