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Salem, OR 97301

February 19, 2015

**Testimony in support of HB 2446
House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**

Chair Witt, members of the Committee:

Friends of Family Farmers offers this testimony in support of HB 2446, a bill from the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to address a legal settlement and repeal Oregon's ban on farmers advertising raw, unpasteurized milk legally for sale on their farms.

Oregon law allows farmers to produce and sell raw milk directly to consumers on their farms with tight limits on the number of lactating animals at any one time. However, ODA has until recently maintained an advertising ban on this legally available on-farm product.

Under a legal settlement related to a First Amendment lawsuit challenging the advertising ban, ODA has agreed to not enforce it, allowing farmers to legally advertise this legally produced on-farm product. HB 2446 would make a simple housekeeping change to the statute and repeal an advertising ban ODA is no longer enforcing due to its conflict with the First Amendment of the US Constitution.

We urge you to pass HB 2446. Thank you for your consideration.

Ivan Maluski
Policy Director