

To Chair Witt and members of the committee:

I urge you to legalize the sale of raw butter in Oregon. This would be extremely beneficial for the health of our Oregon state community.

Raw butter has abundant quantities of vitamins A, D, E, C and K – all of which are essential vitamins for the fostering of vibrant health. Because it contains these vitamins, raw butter can help strengthen the immune system, bones and teeth, protect against tooth decay by promoting the absorption of calcium, and advance adrenal and hormonal health.

I myself have experienced a strong immunity to tooth decay and excellent health over the years due in large part to my consumption of raw milk. It would be amazing to have access to raw butter as well.

By pasteurizing our dairy products, we deprive ourselves of an unadulterated, safe, nutrient-dense food. The pasteurization process destroys many vitamins, beneficial bacteria and enzymes. Pasteurization was only invented because farmers were not regulated and cleanliness was deplorable in many of the dairy operations of the late 1800s. And it was a feeble solution at best, as the heating process used in pasteurization kills raw milk's inherent beneficial bacteria along with the harmful bacteria, leaving the remains of both in the milk.

We have come a long way in our regulation of dairy operations since 1862. Pasteurization was not a good solution back then, and is an unnecessary solution now. With modern advancements in regulations and cleanliness of raw dairy farms, we can safely consume raw dairy products, including raw butter, without fear of becoming ill and with great assurance of improved health.

With this in mind, I hope you will support the passage of HB2612. Thank you for reading my testimony.

