

# Want to be able to buy farm-fresh milk?

Texans can legally buy farm-fresh, raw milk from licensed Texas dairies. But the government requires consumers to drive to the farm – which may be 2 or 3 hours away – to get it. The current law burdens consumers, and it penalizes family farmers who are unfairly prevented from marketing their milk.

### Help Make Raw Milk Sales Legal at Farmer Markets, Drop Points, and Through Delivery!

#### **HB 46: Facts About the Bill**

- Would allow licensed farmers to sell raw milk at farmers markets and through delivery arrangements.
- Makes no other change to the existing health and safety regulations for raw milk that have been successful in protecting the public's health in Texas.
- Sales will continue to be limited to direct-toconsumer transactions, as they are currently. The bill does <u>not</u> allow sales of raw milk in grocery stores.



### Many Advantages to HB 46

- Addresses the consumer demand for high-quality raw milk by making it available at farmers markets and through home delivery.
- Benefit rural economies because direct farm-to-consumer sales of raw milk can mean the difference between a net loss on the farm and a reasonable income for the farm family which impacts the entire community.
- Improves the safety of raw milk by allowing producers to transport it to consumers under safe conditions.
- By allowing a producer to make a single trip to serve multiple customers, rather than having each customer drive to the farm, the bill reduces vehicle miles, thereby benefiting air quality, traffic congestion, and public safety.

## What can you do? Call your State Representative and ask him or her to SUPPORT HB 46

Find out who your legislators are: www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us / Capitol Switchboard 512-463-4630

Go to <a href="https://www.FarmAndRanchFreedom.org/raw-milk">www.FarmAndRanchFreedom.org/raw-milk</a> for more information & free email alerts

More information on how you can help is on the back of this flyer →

#### **TAKE ACTION**

The legislators need to hear from YOU! The chance of HB 46 passing this session depends heavily on the voice of Texas local foods consumers. It only takes a few minutes to contact your legislator, and it really does make a difference. Here are some helpful steps:

- 1. You can **find out who your legislators are** at www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us or by calling the Capitol Switchboard at 512-463-4630. The Switchboard can connect you directly to their offices.
- 2. Call your State Representative. Message: "Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I am a constituent. I am calling to urge Representative \_\_\_ to co-author HB 46, to legalize the sale of raw milk at farmers markets and other direct-to-consumer options. Do you know where he/she stands on this bill?"

If the staffer says they don't know the Representative's position (which is a common response), say: "I would very much appreciate it if you could call me back after talking with the Representative. This issue is very important to me and my family."

You can also offer to send them materials about the bill via email. Download our fact sheet at www.FarmAndRanchFreedom.org/raw-milk or email Judith@FarmAndRanchFreedom.org and we'll follow up.

Although the Committees have not yet been appointed, we anticipate that the Representatives who were on the Public Health Committee last session will most likely be on it again. The likely Committee members are listed below. Their vote could determine whether this bill moves forward or dies like last session. Please make a special effort to call if you are in one of these districts (please note that the zip codes are often "split" among multiple districts):

| Representative   | Area or Zip Codes Represented   | Phone Number (512 area code) |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Carol Alvarado   | Part of Houston: 77002, 003 007, 009, 011, 012, 017, 023, 026, 034, 087, 089, 504, 587  | 463-0732                     |
| Garnet Coleman   | Part of Houston: 77002, 003, 004, 006, 007, 010, 019, 021, 033, 048, 061, 075, 087, 089, 098  | 463-0524                     |
| Sarah Davis      | Part of Houston: 77002, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 019, 024, 025, 027, 030, 046, 056, 057, 081, 096, 098, 401                         | 463-0389                     |
| Susan King       | Jones, Nolan & Taylor Counties  | 463-0718                     |
| Lois Kolkhorst   | Austin, Burleson, Colorado, Fayette, Grimes, Lavaca, and Washington Counties  | 463-0600                     |
| Jodie Laubenberg | Part of Collin County: 75002, 75048, 75069, 75074, 75087, 75094, 75098, 75166, 75173, 75189, 75407                                  | 463-0186                     |
| Elliot Naishtat  | Part of the City of Austin: 78701, 78703, 78704, 78705, 78712, 78731, 78735, 78745, 78746, 78751, 78752, 78756, 78757, 78758, 78759 | 463-0668                     |
| John Zerwas      | Part of Ft. Bend County: 77083, 77406, 77407, 77423, 77435, 77441, 77450, 77471, 77485, 77493, 77494, 77498                         | 463-0657                     |

3. Then, call your State Senator and ask him or her to support HB 46 when it comes to the Senate.