



## MICHIGAN MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

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May 15, 2023

Bruce Summers  
Administrator  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Administrator Summers:

On behalf of Michigan Milk Producers Association, I am writing in support of the comprehensive proposal for modernization of the Federal Milk Marketing Order system submitted to you on May 1, 2023 by the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF).

MMPA is a member-owned milk marketing cooperative and dairy processor serving over 1,000 dairy farmers throughout Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and Indiana. MMPA is the 10th largest U. S. dairy farmer-owned dairy cooperative and operates four dairy processing plants in three states. MMPA's manufacturing plants process and package everything from fluid milk, cheese, and nonfat dry milk to butter.

MMPA participated with other dairy cooperative representatives on a FMMO modernization task force established through NMPF. NMPF's comprehensive Federal Order proposal is the result of nearly two years of meetings and discussions among the dairy industry's leading experts and represents a true consensus of the nation's dairy farmers and its processing dairy cooperatives. While its specific provisions will have different impacts on literally every dairy farm in America, this proposal will benefit all producers and represents the best path for the U.S. dairy industry moving forward.

The NMPF proposal represents an important and essential approach toward the systemwide changes needed to ensure a successful update of the nation's federal milk order system, which is critical to ensuring a stable, orderly supply of milk across the United States.

I especially urge you to move forward with a national federal order hearing that includes all aspects of the NMPF proposal. Because of the extensive length of time that has passed since these provisions were last updated, and the complex interactions between these various provisions of milk-marketing orders, each individual component is essential to the success of the whole. Please help dairy farmers advance this industry by moving forward with the NMPF proposal. A brighter future for our farms, families and rural communities relies upon it.

Sincerely,

Doug Chapin  
Board Chairman

Joe Diglio  
President & CEO

Cc: Dana Coale  
Erin Taylor