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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<tr>
<td>Raymond S. Burton</td>
<td>John D. Shea</td>
<td>Beverly A. Hollingworth</td>
<td>Raymond J. Wieczorek</td>
<td>Debra B. Pignatelli</td>
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<td>338 River Road</td>
<td>8 McIntire Road</td>
<td>209 Winnacunnet Road</td>
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TDD Access: Relay NH: 1-800-735-2964

www.state.NH.US/council
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