



June 2, 2025

Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Nutrition and Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Nutrition and Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

Our companies and organizations are proud to produce the healthy dairy products that American families enjoy every single day. We are delighted to voice our strong support for S. 222 - The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025. This bipartisan legislation would allow schools to offer whole and 2% milk and other milk varieties in their meal programs, making it easier for students to consume milk's 13 essential nutrients as recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

The US dairy processing industry supports more than 3 million jobs that generate \$198 billion in direct wages and \$778 billion in overall economic impact. Our companies and organizations make the milk, cheese, ice cream, yogurt and cultured products, and dairy ingredients produced and marketed in the United States and sold throughout the world.

Whole and 2% milk contain the same nutrients as all other fluid milk, including calcium, phosphorus, protein, vitamins A, D and B12, pantothenic acid, riboflavin, and niacin. Recent research has shown that there is no harm, and some potential benefits from the consumption of full-fat dairy foods such as whole milk, including less weight gain and neutral or lower risk of heart disease. Several recent research studies examining the effect of higher fat milk consumption found that it was associated with lower rates of childhood obesity.

Since 2012, schools have only been allowed to offer non-fat (skim) and low-fat (1%) milk, and school milk consumption declined by 9% in total volume in the first five years following this regulatory change and continues to decline. The 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) highlights that between 68% and 76.2% of school-age males and between 77.4% and 94.3% of school-age females are not consuming enough dairy. An overall decline in school milk consumption has been identified with a similar reduction in average daily participation (ADP) in school meal programs.



It is important to provide children with a wide variety of milk options that they will drink and that meet their individual needs—whether that be milk like whole and 2%, low-fat milk, or lactose-free milk. New national polling by Morning Consult, commissioned by the International Dairy Foods Association, shows 91% of parents serve their children whole or 2% milk at home, and 81% of them support Congress passing legislation to reinstate these options in school meals. View the results here: <https://www.idfa.org/news/88-of-parents-want-whole-and-2-milk-in-school-meals>

The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act provides schools, parents and students the ability to choose the healthy, nutritious milk they prefer so that children consume the essential nutrients that milk provides and that the Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommends.

Thank you for your efforts to advance this important legislation.

Agri-Mark, Inc.	Gossner Foods Inc.
Agropur	Graeter's Ice Cream Company
Albertsons	Great Lakes Cheese
All Star Purchasing Association	GSP Associates
Anderson Erickson Dairy	HeritageComp
Arla Foods US	Hershey Creamery Co.
Associated Milk Producers Inc.	Hilmar
Aurora Organic Dairy	Hoffmann Oberweis Dairy LLC
Blue Bell Creameries	Hollandia Dairy, Inc.
Brewster Cheese Company	Horizon Organic Dairy
Byrne Dairy, Inc.	HP Hood LLC
Casper's Ice Cream	Idaho Milk Products
Cedar Crest Specialties, Inc.	International Dairy Foods Association
Clover Sonoma	Kleinpeter Farms Dairy, L.L.C.
CROPP Cooperative Organic Valley	Leprino Foods Company
Crystal Creamery	Masters Gallery Foods, Inc.
Crystal Farms Dairy Company	MCT Dairies, Inc
Dippin' Dots, LLC	Meadow Gold Dairies Hawaii
Diversified Foods Inc	Meadowvale Inc.
fairlife	Miceli Dairy Products
Galliker Dairy Company	Michigan Milk Producers Association
Gifford's Ice Cream	Milkco, Inc
Glanbia Nutritionals	Minerva Dairy
Good Culture, LLC	Nasonville Dairy Inc.



IDFA
International
Dairy Foods Association

Ninth Avenue Foods
Ornua Ingredients North America
Plains Dairy LLC
Proliant Dairy Ingredients
Rich Ice Cream Co.
Rockview Family Farms
Saputo Dairy USA
Schneider's Dairy Inc.
Schreiber Foods
Shamrock Foods Company
Shehadey Family Foods (Producers Dairy,
Model Dairy, Umpqua Dairy, Berkeley
Farms, Mid Valley Family Foods)
The Ice Cream Club, Inc.
The Kroger Co.
Turner Dairy Farms
United Dairy Inc.
Wapsie Valley Creamery, Inc.
Weber's Farm Store Inc.