



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.



IDFA
International
Dairy Foods Association

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.
Agropur
Albertsons
All Star Purchasing Association
Anderson Erickson Dairy
Arla Foods US
Associated Milk Producers Inc.
Aurora Organic Dairy
Blue Bell Creameries
Brewster Cheese Company
Byrne Dairy, Inc.
Casper's Ice Cream
Cedar Crest Specialties, Inc.
Clover Sonoma
CROPP Cooperative | Organic Valley
Crystal Creamery
Crystal Farms Dairy Company
Dippin' Dots, LLC
Diversified Foods Inc
fairlife
Galliker Dairy Company
Gifford's Ice Cream
Glanbia Nutritionals
Good Culture, LLC

Gossner Foods Inc.
Graeter's Ice Cream Company
Great Lakes Cheese
GSP Associates
HeritageComp
Hershey Creamery Co.
Hilmar
Hoffmann Oberweis Dairy LLC
Hollandia Dairy, Inc.
Horizon Organic Dairy
HP Hood LLC
Idaho Milk Products
International Dairy Foods Association
Kleinpeter Farms Dairy, L.L.C.
Leprino Foods Company
Masters Gallery Foods, Inc.
MCT Dairies, Inc
Meadow Gold Dairies Hawaii
Meadowvale Inc.
Miceli Dairy Products
Michigan Milk Producers Association
Milkco, Inc
Minerva Dairy
Nasonville Dairy Inc.



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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.