

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: sell-by date on milk

Subject: sell-by date on milk

To: Senator Bruce Tudvedt, Senator Elsie Arntzen, Senator Tom Facey, Senator Dick Barrett, Rep. Tom Berry, Rep. Greg Hertz, Rep. Ryan Lynch, Rep. Lea Whitford:
From: Michael and Sherri Hayes, Michael's Convenience Stores, Kalispell, Mt.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

My wife and I have owned and operated c-stores in Montana for nearly 17 years. I am writing to encourage your committee to consider all the facts and do the right thing and allow the correct sell by date to be printed on milk. This is not about Montana dairy farmers, this is about common sense. Milk has a life of 21 to 24 days, 6 to 12 million gallons of milk is being wasted every year. It is time to update the rule. The majority of the milk sold in Montana is sold through a huge company in Texas.

There are hundreds of small independent c-stores in Montana, competing with the huge grocery chains that use fuel as a loss leader, plus competing with the "Gasinos" that Montana State government has allowed to grow into an empire has made our future unclear.

Michael's truly supports Montana owned dairy farmers, we choose to sell only Kalispell Creamery Milk at our locations. Changing the expiration date on milk imported into Montana will help keep the prices lower for Montana families and help independent convenience stores compete with huge out of state corporations that drop a few salaries and take all of the profit out of town.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Michael and Sherri Hayes
Michael's Convenience Stores
Kalispell, Montana