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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MILK LABELING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that advances in food  
2 processing techniques have drastically increased the shelf life  
3 of certain foods; however, these processes may also affect the  
4 nutritional value of important food staples such as milk.

5           The legislature also finds that although milk is required  
6 to have the "best by" date, this does not inform the consumer of  
7 the length of time that has transpired since the milk was  
8 processed. Hawaii consumers clearly need additional information  
9 to evaluate the freshness of milk. The legislature finds that  
10 labeling milk with the pasteurization date or packaging date  
11 will better inform consumers as to which products are the  
12 freshest, and enabling consumers to choose the freshest milk  
13 will promote the public health.

14           The legislature further finds that ensuring the quality and  
15 freshness of Hawaii products is consistent with the State's  
16 island fresh campaign, which encourages consumers to support  
17 local farmers by buying locally-produced products. Providing



1 consumers with the milk pasteurization date will raise the  
2 quality profile of milk pasteurized and processed in Hawaii.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require milk offered for sale  
4 in Hawaii to be labeled with the date of pasteurization or the  
5 date the milk was packaged for distribution or sale.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
8 and to read as follows:

9 "§321- Milk labeling; date of pasteurization or  
10 packaging. (a) Any beverage product that contains one hundred  
11 per cent by weight of milk and is pasteurized, distributed, or  
12 offered for sale in this State shall be labeled with the date  
13 that the contents were:

14 (1) Pasteurized; or

15 (2) Packaged for distribution or sale, if no portion of  
16 the beverage product has been pasteurized.

17 The label shall clearly indicate that the date refers to the  
18 date of pasteurization or the date of packaging for distribution  
19 or sale, as applicable.

20 (b) For purposes of this section:

21 "Milk" means all fresh milk or fresh milk constituents to  
22 be used in fluid form for human consumption, including



1 pasteurized milk, cream, half-and-half, whole milk, skim milk,  
2 buttermilk, flavored milk, flavored skim milk, reconstituted or  
3 recombined milk, and filled milk, as those terms are used or  
4 defined in section 157-1.

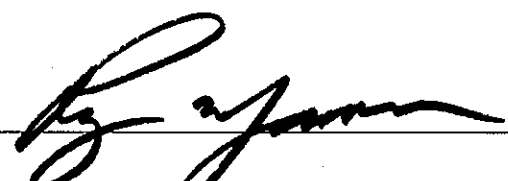
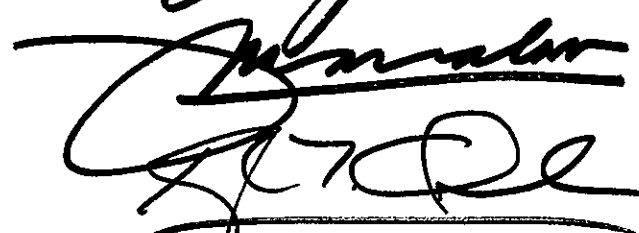




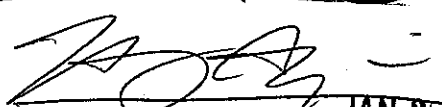
5 "Pasteurized" means that the beverage product was processed  
6 to produce "pasteurized milk", as that term is defined in  
7 section 157-1."

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2012.

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INTRODUCED BY:



**Report Title:**

Milk; Labeling; Date of Pasteurization or Packaging

**Description:**

Requires milk beverages to be labeled with the date of pasteurization or the date of packaging. Effective 1/1/12.

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