



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Health

H.B.606, RELATING TO MILK LABELING

**Testimony of Loretta Fuddy, ACSW, MPH
Acting Director of Health**

January 27, 2011

1 **Department's Position:** Oppose

2 **Fiscal Implications:** The new regulatory function regarding labeling will require resources to
3 administer, monitor, and enforce. The DOH already has present difficulties meeting it's core functions
4 due to a lack of resources.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill requires milk that is sold or distributed in Hawaii to be labeled
6 with a date of pasteurization or packaging.

7 The DOH opposes the bill because it is confusing in its purpose and intent. The milk industry is
8 already the most regulated food product in the nation. The nation and Hawaii's milk industries adhere to
9 a voluntary Federal, State, Industry agreement called the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO), which is
10 created through the National Conference of Interstate Milk Shippers (NCIMS), of which the State of
11 Hawaii is a long time participant and voting member. HAR, Chapter 15, Milk, is patterned after the
12 PMO and already has definitions for "milk and milk products" and "pasteurization" which would be
13 changed by passage of this bill. The existing definitions are recognized nationally and would be in
14 conflict with this bill. The bill may also be mistakenly used to allow raw milk sales as Section 2. (a) (2)
15 allows for the packaging of product in which no portion of the beverage has been pasteurized. This

- 1 would be in direct conflict with existing State law that prohibits the sale of raw, unpasteurized milk in
- 2 Hawaii