To the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee:

Greetings from Aroostook County,

I am writing to encourage you to continue to fund the Maine Tier Program at or near the cost of production.

It has added much to the milk price when it drops lower than the cost of production to help cover costs we have and the increases that keep coming.

I have been in the dairy business for over fifty years and have seen a lot of changes.

The tier program has been one of the best programs that has supported the Maine dairy industry, long term.

With our costs on the rise, there is no real way to pass those costs on as there might be in other businesses.

So, I want to encourage you, again, to continue funding the Maine Tier Program so that so dairy industry in Maine can stay in business, supporting our local communities and economies.

Sincerely,

**Dairy Farmer Tom Quint**