

Sarah Littlefield
Livermore
LD 2188

February 7, 2024

LD 2188, Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 26: Producer Margins, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Milk Commission Before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Pluecker, and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry:

Thank you for providing the opportunity for those to testify who are unable to be in the room with you on this day. I simply want to share my chapter in the dairy story you will hear today.

When I left Maine for college 24 years ago to study dairy science, I did so without a farm to return home to and with the belief that for me to have a career in the dairy industry I had to be in another part of the country. Thirteen years later, I was able to return to the place I love to call home employed in the industry I earned a degree in and built my career in. I believe in great deal because of the stability this program has provided to Maine's dairy community.

Today, I am fortunate to have the best of both worlds, coming home every day to my family's dairy farm and working off the farm employed within Maine's dairy community working on behalf of the farmers who mentored me and became my friends.

Sarah Littlefield
Livermore, Maine