

INTRODUCTORY WRITTEN TESTIMONY CONCERNING RAW MILK
FOR THE
PENNSYLVANIA SENATE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
AND
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL HEARINGS ON THIS ISSUE

By William Taylor Reil
Hand-Delivered on September 18, 2007

Chairman Brubaker, Senator Folmer and other members of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, my name is William Taylor Reil. I currently make my home in Elverson, County of Chester, Pennsylvania. However, the roots of my family tree, on my mother's side, the Copes, reach back to a land-grant from William Penn in 1683 for property in today's Copesville, Pennsylvania which is located on Route 162 a few miles west of West Chester, Pennsylvania.

While I am not an attorney, I have been studying and researching Constitutional Law, particularly Pennsylvania History and Law, for nearly 18 years. In the past, I have spoken several times before both Senate and House committees concerning constitutional issues and have discussed many constitutional and other law matters with various Senators and Representatives individually over the years since 1989.

You have heard and will hear a great deal about government's alleged statutory authority over milk and "milk products" found in Purdom's Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated, Title 31 and the alleged concerns about public health and safety with respect to raw milk and other natural foods made with raw milk.

However, the issue of "Raw Milk" now being considered by the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee is in reality, solely a matter of constitutional law. That is, if the Constitutions and the "rule of law", as they lawfully must, control what those on this Committee and all others in the Pennsylvania Senate and House do in their official capacities.

The statutes now in question are found in Chapter 13, MILK AND CREAM, 31 P.S.A. Sections 511 through 700.5. Specifically, those in the Department of Agriculture are demanding that farmers selling or offering to sell raw milk obtain a "milk permit" allegedly required by section 646 of the law originally enacted as "1935, July 2, P.L. 589 (Act 210)", and are prosecuting farmers who do not have a "milk permit" under the alleged authority of sections 660c. through 660f. in the same law.

While these statutes may or may not be constitutional in whole or in part; the application of, or any attempt to apply, these statutes to a Pennsylvania farmer, his family or agent (private individuals); their farm, the structures, equipment, animals, etc. thereon (private property), and/or the direct sale or exchange, by contact or otherwise, of the foods produced by them (private business) to a consumer, his family or agent (private individuals) is clearly in direct violation of several provisions of the Pennsylvania and United States of America Constitutions, particularly those found in their Declaration of Rights and the Bill of Rights, respectively.

Pennsylvania's history and law are rich with evidence to support this position.

As soon as I learned of this Hearing, I travel to Harrisburg in the morning on September 7, 2007 and made a personal request to speak before the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on this most important subject and to explain applicable constitutional law provisions, plus other history and law matters. However, I was told that all of the speakers for the Hearing had been selected when it was originally scheduled by the Chairman in late August. Still wishing to talk with the Committee, I left my name and contact information in hopes that there may be a cancellation by one of the speakers and thus time would become available at the September 18th Hearing. This did not occur.

I would still like to present my Full Testimony to this Committee in a future Hearing on the subjects previously stated herein above and to have an opportunity to address any questions which members of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs may have concerning my testimony on constitutional law as it relates to the relevant statutes and their application and/or misapplication. I know several other concerned and informed Citizens who would also like an opportunity to address the Committee in person concerning the present Hearing subject(s).

Therefore, I respectfully request that one or more additional Hearing(s) be scheduled by Chairman Brubaker on this subject in the near future so that all of the interested parties may have an opportunity to speak with the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee regarding raw milk, other natural foods made with raw milk and related matters.

I reserve my right to submit a full, written testimonial document in the near future which shall be made a part of the September 18, 2007 Hearing's official record and distributed to all of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee members, if no future hearing(s) is(are) going to be schedule on the subject of raw milk, other natural foods made with raw milk, the alleged requirement for a permit or permits, etc.

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Respectfully submitted,



William Taylor Reil