

### **Position Regarding: *Sale or Distribution of Raw Milk***

The North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors (NCALHD) recognizes the nutritional value of milk, and it further recognizes the overwhelming scientific evidence that raw milk can transmit pathogenic bacteria to the consumer. The NCALHD further recognizes the overwhelming scientific and public health evidence that pasteurization of milk has been proven to be a sound method of preventing milkborne disease. NCALHD therefore

- Opposes any legislation that would allow the sale or distribution of raw, unpasteurized milk to the consumer. NCALHD further opposes arrangements such as “Cow Shares,” “Herd Sharing,” bartering, exchange, or any other action that would allow the consumer to obtain a portion of the production of raw, unpasteurized milk from a bovine, ovine, or caprine animal.
- Supports legislation that requires pasteurization of milk prior to sale or distribution to the consumer.
- Supports efforts to educate the consumer about the dangers inherent in consuming unpasteurized milk or products made from raw milk.

The North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors has long supported preventive measures to protect the safety of food for the public. NCALHD acknowledges the importance of milk as source of nutrition and is concerned about the safety of milk and products made from milk. NCALHD’s position regarding raw milk is consistent with sound, science-based, preventive public health measures.