



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

March 1, 2019

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
United States Senator  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Kind  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gwen Moore  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Glen Grothman  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mark Pocan  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Gallagher  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bryan Steil  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James Sensenbrenner  
United States Representative  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senators Johnson and Baldwin and Representatives Duffy, Moore, Pocan, Steil, Kind, Grothman, Gallagher, and Sensenbrenner:

As members of the Wisconsin State Assembly Committee on Agriculture, we understand that our state's dairy farmers are facing extremely challenging economic times. Therefore, we should do everything we can to promote, support, and fight for Wisconsin's family dairy farms.

We are writing to strongly encourage you to support a new bipartisan piece of federal legislation called "The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2019 (H.R. 832)." This bipartisan legislation was introduced by U.S. Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-PA) and Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee Collin Peterson (D-MN). The legislation would allow regular and flavored whole milk as options for school children all across the country.

Additionally, we request that you urge USDA to reevaluate the school lunch program to include a 2 percent milk option along with whole milk. Kids develop their lifelong eating habits at an early age in the friendly confines of their school cafeterias and should be able to choose from the full range of healthy milk options.

State Representative Travis Tranel (R-49<sup>th</sup> Assembly District) has personally spoken with grade school students in his district that do not like drinking milk at school because of the limited choices. The kids don't like the taste of non-fat or 1 percent milk and prefer to drink 2 percent or whole milk, like their parents serve them at home.

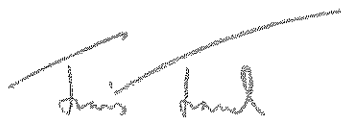
Allowing children and parents to choose from the full spectrum of dairy options (1%, 2%, nonfat, and whole milk) makes sense for students across the country and right here at home in Wisconsin. These students will be more likely in the long term to become consumers of milk, much of which is produced right here in our home state, if they are allowed to drink the milk of their choice in school.

You can help students get full access to nutritional milk choices at school by supporting H.R. 832 and lifting restrictions on the types of milk choices students have, while also supporting our state's \$44 billion dollar dairy industry.

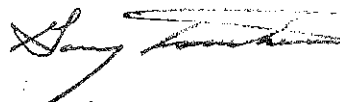
With family farmers going out of business at a record rate, it is imperative that Congress act to further expand dairy markets and allow schools to offer a full variety of milk options. This will be one small step in the right direction. You wouldn't think it would take an Act of Congress to serve 2% milk at school, but apparently it does.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

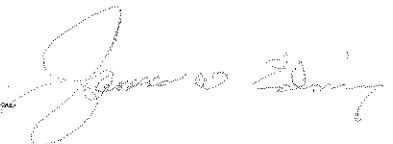
Sincerely,



Travis Tranel  
State Representative  
49<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



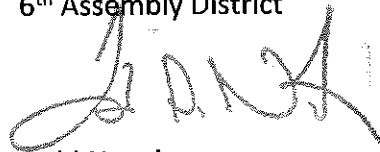
Gary Tauchen  
State Representative  
6<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



James Edming  
State Representative  
87<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Tony Kurtz  
State Representative  
50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Todd Novak  
State Representative  
51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



Nancy VanderMeer  
State Representative  
70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

*J. E. Pronschinske*

Treig Pronschinske  
State Representative  
92<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



Jon Plumer  
State Representative  
42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

*Rep. Jeff Mursau*

Jeffrey Mursau  
State Representative  
36<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

*Dave Considine*

Dave Considine  
State Representative  
81<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



Don Vruwink  
State Representative  
43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

*Debra Kolste*

Debra Kolste  
State Representative  
44<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

*Mark Spreitzer*

Mark Spreitzer  
State Representative  
45<sup>th</sup> Assembly District