

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

The Utah Association of Local Health Departments (UALHD) fully recognizes the nutritional value of milk. However, it further recognizes the overwhelming scientific evidence that “raw” milk can transmit pathogenic bacteria to the consumer, and the public evidence that pasteurization of milk has proven to be a sound method of preventing “milk-borne” diseases. Therefore, the UALHD:

- Opposes any legislation that would allow the sale or distribution of raw, and/or unpasteurized milk to the consumer. The UALHD 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 animals.
- 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 Utah Association of Local Health Departments has long supported preventive measures to protect the safety of food for the public. The UALHD acknowledges the importance of milk as a source of nutrition and is concerned about the safety of milk and products made from milk. The UALHD’s position regarding raw milk is consistent with sound, science-based, and preventive public health measures.