



NOFA/Mass
 411 Sheldon Rd.
 Barre, MA 01005
 978-355-2853
 www.nofamass.org
 July 22, 2010

Dear Candidate for Representative or Senator in the Massachusetts Legislature:

NOFA/Mass (the Northeast Organic Farming Association/Massachusetts Chapter, Inc.) is an organization of 1200 members supporting the production and consumption of local organic food. A number of state policies impact this process and we are surveying you to get your position on some of these.

Please take this short survey and return it to us in the enclosed postage paid envelope. We will publish responses on our website (www.nofamass.org) to let your constituents know your positions on these issues.

Candidate Survey

Name: _____

Running for Representative _____ Senator _____ in District _____

Fact: Massachusetts dairy farmers are currently allowed to sell raw (unpasteurized) milk to consumers at their farms. Sales of this milk are regulated by MDAR (the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources) to ensure safety. The price that farmers receive for such milk ranges from 6 to 10 times as much as they receive for milk sent to pasteurization plants.

Question 1: Do you support the right of consumers to ask someone else to pick up their milk for them at the farm?

Yes _____ No _____ I don't know right now. Help educate me _____

Comment _____

Question 2: Would you support regulations allowing farmers to deliver raw milk to their customers?

Yes _____ No _____ I don't know right now. Help educate me _____

Comment _____

(over, please)

Question 3: Would you support regulations allowing farmers to sell raw milk at farmers markets?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Question 4: Would you support regulations allowing farmers to sell other unpasteurized dairy products, such as skim milk and cream?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Question 5: Would you support regulations allowing retail sales of raw milk at retail stores not on farms?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Fact: More than 30 Massachusetts towns have passed resolutions calling on the state legislature to regulate the use of GMOs (genetically modified organisms) in agriculture and in our food.

Question 6: Do you think consumers have the right to know when they are eating food containing GMOs?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Question 7: Would you support state regulations calling for GMO labeling in food?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Question 8: Would you support state regulations that make manufacturers of GMO crops strictly liable for damages caused by genetic contamination from their products to organic or other non-GMO crops?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Fact: In Massachusetts, poultry sold to restaurants must be slaughtered in a USDA inspected plant. No such plant, however, exists in Massachusetts. To aid farm viability, Connecticut just signed into law a "Farms, Foods, and Jobs bill" allowing poultry slaughtered at farms inspected by the state to be sold to restaurants and hotels.

Question 9: Would you support regulations allowing sale of poultry slaughtered at state-inspected facilities?

Yes_____ No_____ I don't know right now. Help educate me_____

Comment _____

Thank You!