

CHAPTER 119**(HCR 207)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Department of Agriculture to evaluate the formula used to establish the price of milk paid to farmers, determine if the formula puts Kentucky dairy farmers at a competitive disadvantage, and determine if a more efficient formula could reduce trucking for Kentucky milk processors and provide an incentive to process more Kentucky milk, allowing Kentucky consumers and schools to have access to the milk produced by Kentucky farmers.

WHEREAS, Kentucky consumers have become increasingly aware of where their food comes from, and the growth of the Kentucky Proud state marketing initiative encourages buying local; and

WHEREAS, 950 Kentucky family-run dairy farms maintain stewardship of thousands of acres of land, and are of pivotal importance to the local and state economy; and

WHEREAS, there is incentive to move milk from surplus to deficit areas, yet little or no incentive to keep locally produced milk local and limit food miles in deficit areas; and

WHEREAS, the limited degree of transparency throughout the milk marketing process increases the difficulty in identifying and solving the problem;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. The United States Department of Agriculture is urged to evaluate the formula used to establish milk prices paid to farmers, determine if the formula puts Kentucky dairy farmers at a competitive disadvantage, and determine if a more efficient balancing system could be devised that would reduce Kentucky milk processors' trucking expense and provide an incentive for local milk to stay local, allowing Kentucky consumers and schools to access milk produced by Kentucky farmers.

➔Section 2. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and to the Kentucky Congressional delegation.

Signed by Governor April 12, 2010