

Brian Frazee President & CEO June 11, 2024

The Honorable Eric Buckson Delaware General Assembly 411 Legislative Ave. Dover, DE 19901

Dear Senator Buckson,

Beebe Healthcare
David A. Tam,
MD, MBA
President & CEO
DHA Board Chair

ChristianaCare
Janice E. Nevin,
MD, MPH
President & CEO
DHA Board Vice Chair

Bayhealth
Terry Murphy
President & CEO
DHA Board Secretary &
Treasurer

Nemours Children's Health Mark Marcantano President Delaware Valley Operations

TidalHealth Nanticoke
Penny Short, MSM, BSN,
RN
President

Saint Francis Hospital James Woodward President & CEO Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic Region

Delaware Healthcare Association Brian W. Frazee President & CEO The Delaware Healthcare Association, representing Delaware's hospitals, health systems, and related healthcare organizations, opposes SB 273 relating to raw milk.

DHA is concerned that in legalizing the sale and distribution of raw milk for human consumption, Delawareans will be at greater risk for serious illness and hospitalization. Raw milk, or milk that has not been pasteurized, can expose consumers to bacteria such as E. coli, Listeria, and Salmonella. Children, pregnant individuals, adults over age 65, and those with weakened immune systems, are at a higher risk of serious illness from these germs.

Should SB 273 advance, DHA respectfully requests that public health and infectious disease professionals be involved in the regulatory process to ensure this program is implemented as safely as possible. DHA also requests that the raw milk labels be required to include language warning of the health risks of consuming raw milk, particularly for those at greatest risk for serious illness.

Thank you for the opportunity to share DHA's concerns with SB 273. We hope to work with you to protect the health of Delawareans.

Sincerely,

Brian Frazee President & CEO

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Delaware Healthcare Association