



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

2025 Raw Milk Legislation

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim
Committee
August 21, 2024

UDAF Feedback based on draft bill “Raw Milk Amendments”



Thank you!



UDAF has met with Representative Acton and stakeholders during the interim. We've had good discussions. The draft bill incorporates some of our feedback.

Despite the progress we have a few concerns

UDAF Authority is Not Clear

- The bill requires genome sequencing to link a producer to an outbreak.
- It is not clear if that testing is required before the department can issue a cease and desist order or if it could happen after?



Unanswered Questions about Genome Sequencing



- UDAF does not do genome sequencing.
- We have no control over it or access to patient data.
- It is more expensive- who would pay for it?
 - We do not have funding for the program and the cost would likely go to producers.



Timelines for Testing may not be Feasible

- We are not confident that genome sequencing could be done in five business days.
- We may not be able to do three pathogen tests in ten business days (required to lift a Cease and Desist)
- “Pathogen free” should be defined.



Epidemiology should be included in the Bill



Epidemiological data collected by DHHS is a tool the Department should be able to use to take action in the event of a foodborne illness outbreak.

Requiring a Second Lab to Test Samples



What kind of testing would have to be analyzed by two laboratories?

Who would pay for the second lab to test samples?

Producers would likely have to pay for the cost of the second lab to test their samples.

Additional UDAF Concern



- **Some raw milk facilities have advertised that their milk is “Tested by UDAF”**
- **UDA testing does not ensure raw milk is safe for all consumers and advertising it could be misleading.**



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Questions?