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# ASSOCIATION OF FOOD AND DRUG OFFICIALS

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2005

## RESOLUTION NUMBER 1

**Submitted by:** Association of the Food and Drug Officials of the Southern States

**Date:** April 13, 2005

**Concerning:** Presenting information and position statements to State Legislative officials considering changing food laws regarding sale of raw milk and raw milk products.

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**Whereas**, there has been a well documented history of milk borne illnesses throughout the nation associated with the consumption of raw milk and raw milk products; and

**Whereas**, Federal agencies such as FDA and CDC and numerous states have reported recent illnesses and deaths associated with the consumption of raw milk and milk products such as cheeses produced from unpasteurized milk; and

**Whereas**, the FDA continues to report continued importation of significant amounts of cheeses manufactured from raw milk, with laboratory analysis of these cheeses confirming the presence of *Listeria* and various other pathogens; and

**Whereas**, AFDO supports mandatory pasteurization for all milk and milk products intended for direct human consumption except where alternative procedures to pasteurization are provided (i.e. curing of certain cheese varieties) to ensure the safety of finished products; and

**Whereas**, State Public Health and Agriculture Officials are reporting increased activity on the part of State legislatures to amend current laws or pass new laws that will allow for the sale of raw milk and raw milk products; therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that AFDO update the Position Statement on Raw Milk and Milk Products that was revised by the AFDO Board of Directors on June 14, 2003, to include current illness data associated with the sale of raw milk products, as well as position statements of various public health and industry entities; and be it further

**Resolved** that the AFDO Position Statement be sent throughout the nation to State Public Health and Agriculture Officials for presentation to their legislative representatives who may be considering adopting or amending dairy laws that would permit the sale of raw milk and milk products.