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October 30, 2024

BY EMAIL

Robert N. Barley, Chairman
c/o Douglas L. Eberly, Esquire
Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board
Room 110, Agriculture Building
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 171110
Email: deberly@pa.gov

Re: November 6, 2024 Over-Order Premium Hearing and Senate Bill No. 1297

Chairman Barley and Members of the Board:

Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) supports the request to continue the over-order-premium at \$1.00 per hundredweight along with the fuel adjuster premium for six months starting January 1st, 2025. However, given that Senate Bill No. 1297 has passed both the Senate and House Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committees, DFA wants to reiterate that it supports reform to the current system for collecting and distributing over-order premiums in Pennsylvania. If adopted, Senate Bill No.1297 would establish the ability for the Pennsylvania Milk Board to collect and distribute premiums directly to Pennsylvania farmers, dealers and handlers.

DFA does want to emphasize that if the bill were to be implemented, DFA would support the Milk Board using the discretion granted to them to ensure that the premium collected on Class I products be at the point of retail sale, and that those premiums are distributed to all Pennsylvania dairy farmers in a fair and equitable manner. DFA believes that if the Milk Board were able to collect and distribute premiums in this manner, it would increase transparency and accountability in the current system.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Lucy S. Clippinger

Lucy S. Clippinger

cc: Drew Frommelt, *Dairy Farmers of America*
Elizabeth Albright, *Secretary, Pennsylvania Milk Board*
Interested Parties