



HOUSE BILL 309: Got Natural Milk

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health, if favorable, Agriculture	Date:	April 27, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Riddell, Queen, Harrison, McGrady	Prepared by:	Amy Jo Johnson
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 309 allows for the dispensing of raw milk and raw milk products to independent or partial owners of lactating animals for personal use or consumption.*

CURRENT LAW:

It is illegal to sell or dispense raw milk or raw milk products for human consumption in North Carolina. G.S. 106-266.35 allows only milk that is Grade "A" pasteurized milk to be sold or dispensed directly to consumers for human consumption. Raw milk and raw milk products are only able to be sold or dispensed to a permitted milk hauler or a milk processing facility. Raw milk and raw milk products may be dispensed for nonhuman consumption and any product dispensed as animal feed must be labeled with the statement "IT IS NOT LEGAL TO SELL RAW MILK FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION IN NORTH CAROLINA."

Federal law prohibits the interstate sale of unpasteurized milk for human consumption. 21 CFR 1240.61(a) states: "No person shall cause to be delivered into interstate commerce or shall sell, otherwise distribute, or hold for sale or other distribution after shipment in interstate commerce any milk or milk product in final package form for direct human consumption unless the product has been pasteurized or is made from dairy ingredients (milk or milk products) that have all been pasteurized, except where alternative procedures to pasteurization are provided for by regulation..."

BILL ANALYSIS:

House bill 309 would amend G.S. 106-266.35 to allow for the transfer or dispensing of raw milk or raw milk products for the personal use of or consumption by an independent or partial owner of a cow, goat, or other lactating animal.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective October 1, 2015.

