

## RESOLUTION 30 - 2010

Subject: Sale of "Raw" Unpasteurized Milk in Wisconsin  
Introduced by: James C. Allen, MD and the Dane County Medical Society  
Referred to: Quality and Clinical Outcomes

1 Whereas, Current law generally prohibits the sale of unpasteurized commonly called (raw) milk  
2 and other milk products; and  
3  
4 Whereas, Legislation has been introduced to legalize the sale; and  
5  
6 Whereas, Many people have forgotten the havoc that tuberculosis caused in the past and the great  
7 benefits of pasteurization; and  
8  
9 Whereas, Pasteurization of milk played a significant roll in reducing tuberculosis and especially  
10 tuberculosis of bone in children; therefore be it  
11  
12 RESOLVED, That the Wisconsin Medical Society oppose any legislation to allow sale of any  
13 dairy products made of raw milk in Wisconsin.

Fiscal note: Within current budget if replaces existing legislative priority.

### Relevant Policies

#### Society:

##### PUB-027

**Raw Milk:** The Wisconsin Medical Society believes that all milk sold for human consumption should be required to be pasteurized. (BOD, 0110)

#### AMA:

##### H-150.980 Milk and Human Health

The AMA reaffirms its policy that all milk sold for human consumption should be required to be pasteurized. (Sub. Res. 67, I-85; Reaffirmed by CLRPD Rep. 2, I-95; Reaffirmed: CSA Rep. 8, A-05)

### Relevant Society Action:

Council on Legislation

Report to the Board of Directors - January 23, 2010

SUBJECT: New Society Policy Proposal: Sale Of Raw Milk & Milk Products

ACTION REQUESTED: The Council on Legislation recommends adoption of new Society policy.

BACKGROUND: At its December 4, 2009 meeting, the Council on Legislation (Council) discussed news reports that legislation would be introduced in the state legislature related to broadening the ability of farmers to sell raw milk. The Council asked that an article about the issue be published in *Medigram* (the December 17, 2009 edition included such a story) and asked staff to follow the issue for possible further action at its next meeting. Following the Council meeting, identical companion bills were introduced in the State Legislature: Assembly Bill 628 was introduced on December 18, 2009 and Senate Bill 434 was

introduced on December 21, 2009. The bills would require the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to grant a raw milk sales permit to certain farmers meeting certain criteria, and allow the farmer to sell unpasteurized products directly to the consumer.

At its January 5, 2010 meeting, the Dane County Medical Society approved a motion requesting that the Board go on record opposing the legislation. As requests for Society changes generally come via the council process, the Council polled its members on adopting an amended version of current AMA policy for the Society's purposes.

Current AMA Policy:

H-150.980 Milk and Human Health

The AMA reaffirms its policy that all milk sold for human consumption should be required to be pasteurized. (Sub. Res. 67, I-85; Reaffirmed by CLRPD Rep. 2, I-95; Reaffirmed: CSA Rep. 8, A-05)

**Proposed modification for Society use:**

**The Wisconsin Medical Society believes that all milk sold for human consumption should be required to be pasteurized.**

The Council approved the proposed language via the Council's listserv on January 10 and 11, 2010.

Rationale: There is a history of unpasteurized milk products causing severe illness for some consumers. Establishing Society policy would allow the Society to take an official position on the pending legislation.

**Board Action: Approved proposed modification for Society use. Board recommendation to House in 2010 Board Report B.**