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BILL ANALYSIS / SUMMARY

H0662

2026 Regular Session

02/20/2026

IDAHO DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION POSITION: **SUPPORT**

SHORT TITLE: Milk and Cream Testing

SPONSOR(S): Representative John Vander Woude, R–Nampa

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: House Agricultural Affairs Committee

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This legislation clarifies the Idaho State Department of Agriculture may test milk and cream for any quality parameter that is used by a buyer and seller to determine pricing. It also clarifies that the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, buyer, and seller have a right to the test sample.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no impact to the General Fund. The costs of testing milk samples are paid through butterfat assessments upon milk producers and processors.

BILL SUMMARY: H662 amends Section 37-506, Idaho Code, relating to milk and cream testing. The bill expands milk and cream testing beyond traditional components of milkfat, protein, lactose, solids nonfat, or somatic cell counts, to include any other quality parameter or other analyte used for purchasing. The bill clarifies that samples must be taken from every shipment by an authorized milk hauler in compliance with Chapter 3, Title 37, Idaho Code. The bill expands who may test samples at any time to include buyers and sellers, in addition to the department of agriculture.

REASONING FOR POSITION: IDA supports H662. This bill is the result of negotiations and collaboration between producers and processors to address milk and cream testing. The bill allows milk and cream to be tested using any quality standard used to determine pricing and purchase. This increases transparency and accountability for both producers and processors and allows the department of agriculture to be the arbitrator over disagreements involving milk sampling results.

IMPACTS TO AGRICULTURE: The expanded sample testing provided by the bill will allow both producers and processors to have more transparency and accountability throughout testing process where constituent parameters effect the price paid. As a fail safe, ISDA can provide timely arbitration services over disputes between producers and processors.

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