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Testimony before the Assembly Committee on Agriculture State Senator André Jacque January 29, 2020

Chairman Tauchen and Committee Members,

Thank you for holding this hearing on Assembly Bill 748, relating to reciprocity for bulk milk weighing and sampling licenses.

The Wisconsin Dairy Task Force 2.0 was created in June 2018 as a joint effort between DATCP and the UW System to study the Wisconsin dairy industry with the goal of making recommendations on the actions that would be needed to maintain a viable and profitable dairy industry in Wisconsin. It was modeled after a similar effort in 1985.

A link to the Task Force's Final Report as well as a link to the original report from 1985 can be found at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing WI/DairyTaskForce.aspx

One of the issues that the Task Force identified is that currently licensed Bulk Milk Weighers and Samplers need to have licenses in multiple states. This, according to the Task Force, imposes an unnecessary regulatory burden of paperwork on milk haulers moving product across multiple states.

The Dairy Task Force 2.0 recommended, by a vote of 25-0, allowing a person who is licensed by an agricultural agency of another state to take weights and samples of milk in bulk tanks. The proposal was put forward by the task force's regulatory certainty committee.

Assembly Bill 748 is supported by Cooperative Network, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association and the Wisconsin Milk Haulers Association.

Thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 748.