

**GOVERNORS' COUNCIL FOR INTERSTATE COMPACTS**

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Northeast Dairy Compact Commission  
64 Main Street Suite 21  
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Dear Chairwoman Schmidle:

As you likely know, the *Governors' Council* has been working with governors, state legislators and state leaders from the twenty-five compact states to increase support for passage of the dairy compact legislation. In addition we are working with a number of environmental and conservation organizations, as well as numerous farm organizations.

On May 13th, the House introduced H.R. 1827, the *Dairy Consumers & Producers Protection Act of 2001*, with the bi-partisan support of 163 co-sponsors. The bill extends the existing Northeast Dairy Compact while at the same time expands it to include New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware. The bill also ratifies a fourteen state Southern Dairy Compact and allows for the creation of a Pacific Northwest Compact and an Intermountain Region Compact.

In addition to the introduction of legislation in the House, the U.S. Senate will likely introduce their dairy compact bill in the coming weeks. I anticipate this introduction to come in early June with Senate hearings following soon afterward.

We're moving ahead in our effort for dairy compacts and I expect our progress to continue. We will continue to evaluate the impact from the recent change of party control in the Senate. However, we will work the power shift to our advantage. With democrats controlling the Senate, the Judiciary Committee will now be chaired by Senator Patrick Leahy.

We will continue to work with a growing coalition of dairy compact supporters. If we can be of any assistance to the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission or for further information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely

  
Andrew Meyer