

LINCOLN ALMOND GOVERNOR Office of the Governor State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1196 401-222-2080

May 4, 2001

Daniel Smith Executive Director Northeast Dairy Compact Commission 64 Main Street, Room 21 Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Mr. Smith,

I appreciate your kind invitation to attend the meeting of the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission on Friday, May 11, in Newport. While I would like to join you, conflicts in my schedule prevent me from doing so.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Commission to Rhode Island and thank you for meeting here and bringing the vital issues involved with the Commission's work to the Rhode Island public's attention. I have been a strong supporter of the ongoing effort by the New England Governors Conference to establish and maintain the Dairy Compact. The compact serves as a most noteworthy example of successful interstate cooperation, along with being vital to the maintenance of an adequate supply of milk for our state and region.

I would also like to thank all the delegations from the Compact states, and of course particularly the Rhode Island delegation, for giving time, energy and support to the Compact over the last several years. Please convey my warmest greetings to all attending the meeting, and my very best wishes for what I am certain will be informative and productive discussions. I would appreciate it if you could provide me with a copy of any report issued by the Commission concerning these discussions.

Again, thank you for the invitation. With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

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