

**JACK REED**  
Rhode Island

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES

BANKING

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

AGING

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3903

May 11, 2001

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON, DC:

320 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3903  
(202) 224-4642

RHODE ISLAND:

201 HILLSIDE ROAD  
SUITE 200  
GARDEN CITY  
CRANSTON, RI 02920-5602  
(401) 943-3100

TDD RELAY RHODE ISLAND  
1-(800) 745-5555

<http://reed.senate.gov>

Northeast Dairy Compact Commission  
64 Main Street, Room 21  
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Members of the Compact Commission:

It is my pleasure to welcome the Members of the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission to its monthly meeting in Newport, Rhode Island. I am pleased that Newport is serving as your host, and I know that you will delight in the charms of this historic city. I regret that I am unable to be here with you today.

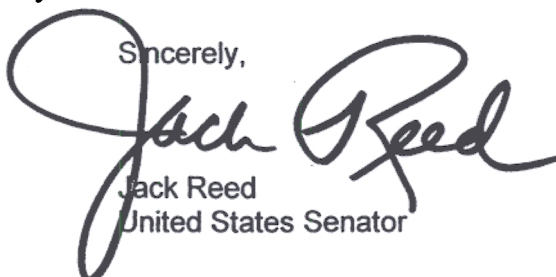
I also write to share with you my continued support for the mission of the Northeast Dairy Compact. I commend your work on behalf of the dairy farmers and dairy consumers in the Northeast. I urge you to continue to work for the future of the Northeast dairy industry, and I pledge to do my part to ensure that the Compact is reauthorized this fall.

Since its inception in 1996, the Northeast Dairy Compact has ensured the viability of dairy farming in our region by providing farmers with price stability. In so doing, the Compact is able to maintain reliable, locally produced supplies of milk for consumers. Locally produced milk, of course, generally means lower milk prices for local families. Indeed, without the Compact, it is likely that local dairy farms would disappear and consumers in the Northeast would face milk prices that include the expense of transporting the milk from dairy producers in the Midwest. It is also important to note that the sustainability of the Northeast dairy industry helps to preserve open space and support the local economies that exist to support dairy farmers throughout our region.

With the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress now underway, members of the Senate and House of Representatives will soon consider reauthorization of the Northeast Dairy Compact. I anticipate a tough fight in the Senate, and your combined strength and participation in the upcoming debate will be instrumental. Ultimately, I am confident that the continuing goals and strong unity of the Compact will sway the Senate to extend its life past October 1, 2001.

Again, I offer you a warm welcome to the "City by the Sea." I wish you a productive meeting, and I look forward to working with the Northeast Dairy Compact to protect the livelihood of New England dairy farmers.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator