

1 S.209

2 Introduced by Senator Starr

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Agriculture; milk handlers; bonding

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
7 Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to report to the General Assembly
8 regarding the sufficiency of the bonding requirements for milk handlers
9 purchasing milk in the State.

10 An act relating to the bonding requirements for milk handlers

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS REPORT

13 ON BONDING REQUIREMENTS FOR MILK HANDLERS

14 On or before March 1, 2020, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and
15 Markets shall submit to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and the House
16 Committee on Agriculture and Forestry a report regarding the bonding
17 requirements for milk handlers under 6 V.S.A. chapter 157. The report shall
18 include:

1 (1) a summary of how milk handlers are complying with the bonding or
2 other financial surety provisions of 6 V.S.A. chapter 157, including a general
3 summary of the milk handlers that are complying with the requirements;

4 (2) an assessment of whether the bonding or other financial surety
5 provisions of 6 V.S.A. chapter 157 are sufficient to protect milk producers in
6 the State so that producers are assured that they will be paid for product
7 supplied;

8 (3) an assessment of whether the exemption from bonding or other
9 financial surety for milk cooperatives should be retained or repealed
10 considering the consolidation of the milk purchasing market; and

11 (4) any additional recommendations of the Secretary of Agriculture,
12 Food and Markets regarding the bonding or other financial surety provisions
13 for milk handlers in the State.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.