

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MILK LABELING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that advances in food  
2 processing techniques have drastically increased the shelf life  
3 of certain foods; however, these processes may also affect the  
4 nutritional value of important food staples such as milk.

5           The legislature also finds that although milk is required  
6 to have the "best by" date, this does not inform the consumer of  
7 the length of time that has transpired since the milk was  
8 processed. Hawaii consumers clearly need additional information  
9 to evaluate the freshness of milk.

10           The purpose of this Act is to require milk to be labeled  
11 with the date of pasteurization or the date the milk was  
12 packaged for distribution or sale. By enabling consumers to  
13 choose the freshest milk, this Act will promote the public  
14 health. It will also raise the quality profile of milk  
15 pasteurized and processed in Hawaii, consistent with the State's  
16 island fresh campaign, which encourages consumers to support  
17 local farmers by buying locally-produced products.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§321- Milk labeling; date of pasteurization or  
5 packaging. (a) Any beverage product containing one hundred per  
6 cent by weight of milk and pasteurized, distributed, or offered  
7 for sale in this state shall be labeled with the date that the  
8 contents were:

9 (1) Pasteurized; or

10 (2) Packaged for distribution or sale, if no portion of  
11 the beverage product has been pasteurized.

12 The label shall clearly indicate that the date specified  
13 pursuant to this section refers to the date of pasteurization or  
14 the date of packaging for distribution or sale, as applicable.

15 (b) For purposes of this section:

16 "Milk" means all fresh milk or fresh milk constituents to  
17 be used in fluid form for human consumption, including  
18 pasteurized milk, cream, half-and-half, whole milk, skim milk,  
19 buttermilk, flavored milk, flavored skim milk, reconstituted or  
20 recombined milk, and filled milk, as those terms are defined in  
21 section 157-1.



1        "Pasteurized" means that the beverage product was processed  
2 to produce "pasteurized milk", as that term is defined in  
3 section 157-1."

4        SECTION 3.    New statutory material is underscored.

5        SECTION 4.    This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2011.

6



**Report Title:**

Milk; Labeling; Date of Pasteurization or Packaging

**Description:**

Requires milk beverages to be labeled with the date of pasteurization or the date of packaging. Effective January 1, 2011. (SD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

