

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1416

To amend the Agriculture Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 to allow a modified bloc voting by cooperative associations of milk producers in connection with the scheduled August referendum on Federal Milk Marketing Order reform.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 22, 1999

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend the Agriculture Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 to allow a modified bloc voting by cooperative associations of milk producers in connection with the scheduled August referendum on Federal Milk Marketing Order reform.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 The Act may be cited as the “Democracy for Dairy  
5 Producers Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFIED BLOC VOTING.**

2 Notwithstanding section 8c(12) of the Agricultural  
3 Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(12)), reenacted with  
4 amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement  
5 Act of 1937, in the case of the referendum conducted as  
6 part of the consolidation of Federal milk marketing orders  
7 and related reforms under section 143 of the Agricultural  
8 Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7253), if a cooperative  
9 association of milk producers elects a vote on behalf of  
10 its members as authorized by such section 8c(12), the co-  
11 operative association shall provide to each producer, on  
12 whose behalf the cooperative association is expressing ap-  
13 proval or disapproval, written notice containing—

14 (1) a description of the questions presented in  
15 the referendum;

16 (2) a statement of the manner in which the co-  
17 operative association intends to cast its vote on be-  
18 half of the membership; and

19 (3) information regarding the procedures by  
20 which a producer may cast an individual ballot.

21 When ballots are tabulated by the Secretary of Agri-  
22 culture, the Secretary shall adjust the vote of a cooperative  
23 association to reflect individual votes submitted by pro-  
24 ducers who are members of, stockholders in, or under con-  
25 tract with, the cooperative association.