



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*House of Representatives*  
*State House, Boston 02133-1020*

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ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP  
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December 7, 2015

Mr. Martin Suuberg, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Protection  
One Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Commissioner Suuberg:

It has come to our attention that the Department is currently considering regulatory changes to 314 CMR 5.00, the Ground Water Discharge Permits Program, as part of their regulatory review initiated by Governor Baker's Executive Order 562. Such changes would include exemptions from permitting on certain agricultural land in compliance with Department of Agricultural Resources regulations.

As you're aware, the Town of Sharon is home to Crescent Ridge Dairy Farm, a regional treasure that has been nationally recognized for its ice cream and other products. Recently, the farm has had challenges in keeping up with the regulatory requirements placed upon them relative to ground water discharge. While they are pursuing alternative solutions to this problem, affording them the opportunity to apply for a waiver from these regulations could potentially alleviate some short-term difficulties.

As such, we strongly encourage you to adopt these recommendations and provide some relief to the agricultural facilities of the Commonwealth. We are always available to discuss this issue further, and we thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis L. Kafka".

**LOUIS L. KAFKA**  
*State Representative*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Timilty".

**JAMES E. TIMILTY**  
*State Senator*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian A. Joyce".

**BRIAN A. JOYCE**  
*State Senator*