WHEREAS, (name of cooperative) is committed to providing the highest possible return to our member-owners; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the vital role dairy farmers play in providing economic stability to rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the dairy pay price is at a four-year low while the average cost of production for a hundredweight of milk has exceeded the price paid to farmers; and

WHEREAS, milk price volatility has increased dramatically since the mid-1980’s, due to a combination of diminishing government price support levels and increased international trade in dairy products; and

WHEREAS, milk price volatility contributes to stress, reduced re-investment in the farm, and deters future generations from taking over the farm; and

WHEREAS, the number of dairy herds has diminished by nearly half in the last 15 years, with an average loss of 1.5 dairy farms every day in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, if dairy programs contain no supply adjustment mechanism, policies will continue to encourage excess production of milk, and excess production will continue to depress pay prices now and into the future with no relief in sight.

Therefore, be it resolved that (name of cooperative) goes on record as supporting a national supply management program in the United States that will a) balance milk supply with consumer demand, b) provide market stabilization to balance historically fluctuating dairy prices, and c) provide a dairy pay price that meets or exceeds an annual average of $20/cwt.