



Press Clip

California Dairy Industry Headline News from Western United Dairymen

Governor Signs Legislation to Help Prevent Plastic Milk Crate Theft - Gov. Schwarzenegger has signed AB 2289, authored by Assemblyman Ira Ruskin (D-Redwood City), into legislation. The bill helps California dairymen; milk processors and beverage distributors stem the tide in plastic milk crate and beverage container theft. I honestly had no idea milk crate theft was such a huge problem in California, Ruskin said. Neither did most of my fellow legislators. But once everyone learned it was costing businesses millions of dollars every year, it was obvious this needed a legislative solution. I was glad to author the bill to shed light on the issue. This new law: * Makes it a crime for an unauthorized person to possess more than five plastic merchandise shells, milk cases or milk crates. * Makes it illegal to obliterate the company owners name on the milk cases and crate, this includes illegal shredding. * Requires those persons involved in the recycling, shredding or destruction process to obtain a copy of the bill of sale or other evidence of ownership. Recycling reprocessors caught shredding plastic milk crates/plastic carrying cases will be subject to prosecution on misdemeanor charges if the cumulative value is \$400 or less. If the value of property value exceeds \$400 then the crime will be treated as a felony.

The new takes effect Jan. 1, 2007. *Sept. 27, 2006*