

## **News Release**

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"Connecting Cows, Cooperatives, Capitol Hill, and Consumers"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, May 9, 2017 Christopher Galen (703) 243-6111 ext. 356 <u>CGalen@nmpf.org</u>

## NMPF Statement on Confirmation of Scott Gottlieb as FDA Commissioner From Jim Mulhern, President and CEO, NMPF

ARLINGTON, VA – "We congratulate Dr. Gottlieb on his confirmation by the Senate today. NMPF will engage with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's new leadership on ways to strengthen the safety of the food supply, promote the judicious use of antimicrobials in livestock, and ensure the clear, consistent labeling of foods regulated by FDA.

"We share Commissioner Gottlieb's goal of remedying the bureaucratic inertia that has hindered FDA's work on several issues. This should include the proper labeling of foods that are disregarding FDA standards of identity. For too long, FDA has not responded to dairy imitators' obvious violation of FDA's clear definition that milk, cheese, ice cream and yogurt must be made from real dairy sources.

"We welcome a more proactive, responsive FDA on the food standards issue to reduce the confusing terminology proliferating in grocery stores and retail food markets. This will greatly enhance the credibility of the agency as the federal authority on food labeling, composition and safety."

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The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), based in Arlington, VA, develops and carries out policies that advance the well-being of dairy producers and the cooperatives they own. The members of NMPF's cooperatives produce the majority of the U.S. milk supply, making NMPF the voice of dairy producers on Capitol Hill and with government agencies. For more on NMPF's activities, visit our website at <u>www.nmpf.org</u>.