



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

State Agrees to Put N.y. Milk in Employee Lunchrooms

Patty Ritchie

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At Senator's Request, State Will Also Look at Boosting Sales of Other NY-Grown Foods

State Senator Patty Ritchie today announced that the state has agreed to put New York milk back in its employee lunchrooms, which serve tens of thousands of state workers and visitors every day, and also look to boost the sales of other New York-grown foods.

Senator Ritchie, who made the announcement as she prepared to embark on a tour of a Madrid dairy farm Friday, said the state's agreement to put New York milk back in its employee lunchrooms is a significant step toward supporting local agriculture.

“New York farm products, from milk and cheese, to vegetables and meats, are second to none in flavor and quality, and there can be no better place to showcase these fine products than in cafeterias and restaurants in our State Capitol that serve tens of thousands of employees and visitors every single day,” Senator Ritchie said. “I want to thank OGS Commissioner Ro

Increasing outlets for the sale of New York dairy products would especially benefit farmers in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties.

Senator Ritchie had written to Commissioner Destito last month after noticing that lunchrooms attached to the governor's residence.

The state is currently preparing to sign new contracts for food services at its sprawling capital complex.

Destito, a former Central New York Assemblywoman who served on that house's Agriculture Committee, responded.

“In reviewing our standard contract language regarding a reference for purchase of New York State products, we have

Senator Ritchie's letter is part of a broader effort to encourage more food service outlets to use New York-made products.

Copies of the correspondence between Senator Ritchie and Commissioner Destito can be found at:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/62640777/OGS-milk-letter> and
<http://www.scribd.com/doc/62640774/OGS-reply-re-milk-at-ESP>.