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## Rep. Rozar and Sen. Bernier on Making Colby Cheese the Wisconsin State Cheese

**Madison, WI** – Today the Assembly Committee on Local Government held a public hearing on Assembly Bill 311. This bill would designate Colby cheese as the official State Cheese of Wisconsin. Representative Donna Rozar (R-Marshfield) and Senator Kathy Bernier (R-Chippewa Falls) authored this legislation and issued the following statement after the public hearing.

“Today, we heard testimony from people across the state on the history and importance of Colby cheese to the State of Wisconsin”, Senator Bernier stated. “In just a few generations Colby has gone from a farm family recipe to world famous, driving America’s love for cheese and putting Wisconsin on the cheese making map.”

Colby cheese was created in 1885 when 16 year-old Joseph F. Steinwand tried the cold washed curd process in his hometown of Colby, Wisconsin. Today, 45 million pounds of Colby cheese are produced in Wisconsin each year, making Colby cheese one of the most popular cheeses in Wisconsin and the Nation.

“Colby cheese is a classic Wisconsin cheese, with a unique rural history that people across this country enjoy as much as Wisconsinites. It is time we honor the legacy of the dairy state and give Wisconsin an Official Cheese we can all be proud of,” stated Representative Rozar.

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