



# American Bakers Association

*Serving the Baking Industry Since 1897*

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February 22, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
235 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Hastert:

On behalf of the American Bakers Association (ABA), we are writing to strongly urge your support for H.R.4167, the "National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005," when this legislation is brought to the House floor. The bill enjoys the support of 227 bipartisan co-sponsors and was reported favorably from the Energy and Commerce Committee on December 15, 2005.

H.R. 4167 is a common-sense piece of legislation that will help consumers make educated decisions for themselves and their families in an ever-changing and currently confusing food labeling environment. Consumers deserve a single standard when it comes to food safety, and this bill will allow states and the FDA to work collaboratively in establishing sound food safety policies that benefit, not confuse, consumers.

The National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005 is a top priority for the American Bakers association and its membership. This legislation recognizes that it makes no sense to have different states adopting different regulatory requirements for identical food products. H.R. 4167 will instead provide consumers with a single set of consistent, science-based food safety regulations for food products sold in all 50 states.

For over 100 years, ABA has represented the interests of the wholesale baking industry and its suppliers - companies that work to provide over 80 percent of the wholesome and nutritious bakery products purchased by American consumers. Again, ABA strongly urges you to vote in favor of H.R. 4167 as reported out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and to vote "no" on weakening amendments or motions. This is a key vote for the ABA and we will be watching your vote carefully.

Sincerely,

Lee Sanders  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations & Public Affairs

Robb MacKie  
President & CEO