




# CALIFORNIA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

March 1, 2006

**TO:** The California Congressional Delegation

**FROM:** Valerie Nera, Director, Agriculture, Resources & Privacy 

**RE: H.R. 4167 – The National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005  
SUPPORT**

The California Chamber of Commerce is the largest broad-based business advocate to government in California. Membership represents one-quarter of the private sector jobs in California and includes firms of all sizes engaged in every aspect of commerce.

The California Chamber **SUPPORTS H.R. 4167**, the National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005. This legislation amends the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act by extending national uniformity to food safety and warning label laws.

California has been on the forefront of efforts to improve health and safety for all of its citizens. In 1986, Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, was passed which requires that products containing chemicals known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity have warning labels. Opponents of H.R. 4167 argue that the bill would compromise that act. We believe those arguments are invalid.

H.R. 4167 is a rational approach to achieving national uniformity for food safety and warning label requirements, striking an appropriate balance between national and state interests. It allows states to advocate that their food standards be applied nationwide. However, it provides an appropriate check on states that might want to require a warning label that might not be justified on a scientific basis. The National Uniformity for Food Act sets the stage for a federal-state partnership to provide scientifically sound information to consumers nationwide about the food they purchase and consume.

The California Chamber of Commerce respectfully urges your **SUPPORT** of **H.R. 4167**.

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