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### **Food Products Association Applauds Senate Introduction of “National Uniformity for Food Act”**

(Washington, D.C.) – Commenting on the introduction today in the U.S. Senate of the “National Uniformity for Food Act,” Cal Dooley, President and CEO of the Food Products Association (FPA), made the following remarks:

“The introduction in the Senate of the National Uniformity for Food Act is a strong step forward for this important legislation, which will provide consumers with the same accurate, science-based information on food safety, regardless of where they live. The Food Products Association applauds Senators Richard Burr (R-NC), Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Ben Nelson (D-NE) for their leadership on the issue of national uniformity and for introducing this bill.

“The National Uniformity for Food Act is a logical extension of the approach to consumer information that currently exists for nutrition labeling, allergen labeling, meat and poultry standards, prescription drugs, pesticide residue standards and medical devices. It will put food safety in the hands of the nation’s top food scientists and food safety experts. Under national uniformity, consumers will be able to pick a product off the grocery shelf in any state and find on the label consistent, science-based information that has been reviewed and accepted by government health authorities.

“There have been many inaccurate statements made by opponents of national uniformity legislation about the bill’s potential impact, and the record needs to be set straight. For example, a rigorous legal analysis prepared for the National Uniformity for Food Coalition has shown that the uniformity provision of the proposed legislation would affect only 11 of the 200 state laws and regulations opponents claim would be eliminated by the bill. To ensure that this legislation and its positive impact on food safety standards and warning requirements is fully understood, we urge the Senate, as soon as possible, to hold a hearing on the important issue of national uniformity.

“National uniformity legislation recently was passed by the House of Representatives by a strong, bipartisan majority. It is now time for the Senate to quickly consider and pass the National Uniformity for Food Act. It is a common-sense piece of legislation that will benefit consumers in all fifty states.”

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The Food Products Association is the largest trade association serving the food and beverage industry in the United States and worldwide. FPA’s laboratory centers, scientists and professional staff provide technical and regulatory assistance to member companies and represent the food industry on scientific and public policy issues involving food safety, food security, nutrition, consumer affairs and international trade.