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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2006**

**Food Products Association Applauds House Passage of
“National Uniformity for Food Act”**

(Washington, D.C.) – Commenting on the passage by the U.S. House of Representatives of H.R. 4167, the “National Uniformity for Food Act,” Cal Dooley, President and CEO of the Food Products Association (FPA), made the following comments:

“The Food Products Association applauds the House for passing the National Uniformity for Food Act. Consumers in all 50 states deserve consistent, science-based standards governing warning requirements associated with labeling, advertising and other forms of communication by food companies. This legislation creates a uniform, national system that recognizes the role of state and local governments in the regulation of food products and integrates them into a national system.

“Relying on the best science available to state and federal governments, the Uniformity Bill provides for the review and harmonization of state food laws with Federal standards, so that states and the Federal government will work collaboratively to inform consumers, rather than maintaining differing requirements that can vary from state to state.

“H.R. 4167 recognizes that it makes no sense to have different states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. It is a common-sense piece of legislation designed to provide uniform information to consumers on the foods they purchase and serve to their families.

“National uniformity in food laws is not a new concept. All meat and poultry regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have national uniformity under the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act. The Nutrition Labeling and Education Act, passed by Congress in 1990, which mandated the Nutrition Facts Panel now found on most food packages, also contained uniformity provisions.

“We appreciate the support for national uniformity demonstrated by Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Michigan) and Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-New York) who introduced this bill, as well as the leadership of Rep. Joe Barton (R-Texas), Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and we urge that the Senate introduces and passes such a bill.”

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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.