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## **Food Products Association Applauds House Committee's Markup of "National Uniformity for Food Act"**

(Washington, D.C.) – In response to the markup on December 15 by the House Energy and Commerce Committee 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 markup of this legislation by the House Energy and Commerce Committee marks an important step forward in providing uniform, national standards and warning requirements for foods. Consumers in all states deserve consistent, science-based standards governing warning requirements associated with labeling, advertising and other forms of communication by food companies. H.R. 4167 creates a uniform, national system that not only recognizes the role of state and local governments in the regulation of food products, but also integrates them into a national system.

"FPA strongly supported the introduction of H.R. 4167. A bipartisan majority of the House has cosponsored this legislation. 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.

"Uniformity is a concept that Congress has recognized in the past. For example the 'Nutrition Labeling and Education Act,' passed by Congress in 1990, which mandated the Nutrition Facts panel now found on most food packages, contained uniformity provisions. The wide bipartisan support for this legislation demonstrates that the concept of national uniformity makes sense to members of Congress.

"FPA now urges that the House of Representatives take prompt action to pass this legislation, and we will work for introduction and passage of similar legislation in the Senate."

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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.