



February 24, 2006

The Honorable Henry Bonilla
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005

Dear Congressman Bonilla:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Latino Coalition, we urge you to support H.R. 4167, the "National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005". The bill has strong bipartisan support with 227, and was reported favorably from the Energy and Commerce Committee on late last year.

This is a very important legislation for our members. It makes no sense to have different states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. H.R. 4167 will provide consumers with a single set of consistent, science-based food safety regulations for food products sold in all 50 states.

Under the current system food regulations are composed of different and sometimes contradictory requirements. This imposes unnecessary complexity and cost on makers of food throughout the United States. By bringing a uniform code, the legislation represents a major step forward in assuring consumer confidence in the food they buy for their families.

H.R. 4167 allows an orderly review of existing state regulations that may differ from federal regulations. This legislation balances the need for uniformity while respecting the role of local governments in ensuring the safety of the food supply, by granting states the ability to have the federal government adopt their state standard.

Once again, we urge you to support this legislation.

Best regards,

Robert G. De Posada
President