

NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOOD COALITION
www.uniformityforfood.org

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**FOOD UNIFORMITY BILL WILL ENSURE ACCURATE FOOD SAFETY
INFORMATION NATIONWIDE**

Washington, D.C. – The National Uniformity for Food Coalition today issued the following statement responding to the New Hampshire Agriculture Commissioner’s criticisms of S. 3128, “National Uniformity for Food Act.”

“Consumers nationwide deserve accurate information about the merits of this legislation. This bill is narrowly crafted to provide for national food safety tolerances and warning labels for packaged foods. Critics’ claims about its effects exaggerate the scope of the bill and foster confusion among consumers.

“It is time the opponents of the bill acknowledge that we have already set the record straight about the impact it will have on state laws and state authority. In fact, the bill specifically preserves states’ role as the authority for enforcement, sanitation inspections, licensing and protection of public health in the event of food emergencies or terrorist threats.

“Additionally, critics’ claims that 200 state laws will be overturned are incorrect. More specifically, New Hampshire’s state laws regarding maple syrup are entirely outside the scope of this bill. According to a thorough legal analysis of the state laws cited, only 11 of the state laws cited will be impacted by S. 3128. In each case, a unique provision of the bill allows the states to petition the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to adopt their state standard as the new national standard.

“Consumers in all 50 states deserve a single standard when it comes to food safety. The National Uniformity for Food Act is an important piece of legislation that will provide for objective food safety regulations based on sound science, ensuring consumer protection and increasing their confidence in the safety of the food supply.

“We commend Senator Judd Gregg for co-sponsoring this important legislation and urge the U.S. Senate to quickly consider and enact the National Uniformity for Food Act.”

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About the National Uniformity for Food Coalition:

The mission of the National Uniformity for Food Coalition is to provide consumers with a single set of food safety standards that are developed in cooperation with state policymakers, and that are based on a consensus interpretation of the entire body of scientific evidence. www.uniformityforfood.org.