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February 23, 2006

The Honorable Heather Wilson  
United States Congress  
318 CHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Wilson:

Thank you for your strong leadership and early support of H.R. 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act. We urge you to continue your support for H.R. 4167 when this legislation is brought to the House floor on March 2, and to oppose any amendments. The bill enjoys the support of 227 bipartisan co-sponsors and was reported by a bipartisan vote from the Energy and Commerce Committee on December 15, 2005.

H.R. 4167 amends the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act warning notification requirements. The bill will provide a measured, science-based approach and will achieve national uniformity. The bill contains a method for the orderly review and harmonization of existing state food safety adulteration laws and warnings as they relate to federal law. No existing state law would be preempted without this review and those state requirements under petition would stay in effect during that review.

H.R. 4167 recognizes that it makes no sense to have a "patchwork quilt" of different states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. National uniformity in food laws is actually the norm, not the exception. H.R. 4167 completes the job by establishing national uniformity for food additives and warning labels.

FDA's programs constitute a comprehensive program of strict safety standards for foods sold in interstate commerce. Conflicting laws requiring different warning labels than those established by FDA create consumer confusion, and could lead consumers to ignore all food label warnings. A single national system will give consumers in all states uniform science-based information on the products they choose.

We urge you to continue your support for H.R. 4167 and to oppose any amendments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony Trujillo  
Chairman of the Board

John A. Carey  
President & CEO