

Delivered on the Floor of the House during consideration of H. R. 4167, National Uniformity for Food Act, March 2, 2006

Collin Peterson (D-MN)

I thank the gentleman. I thank the chair for recognizing me. I rise today in strong support of HR 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act. As ranking Democrat on the agriculture committee, I support this bill because it provides uniform food safety standards and warning requirements and creates a single national system for food and food products regulated by the FDA establishing uniform standards increases efficiency and safety as we have seen in practice today with the USDA and the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Inspection Act, and other authorities that were referred to by the chairman in his remarks a short time ago. Consumers gain with this consistency of uniform regulations for packaged food all across the 50 states under this jurisdiction of the FDA if a food product is safe in one state; it is safe in all states. With the world's safest food supply at the lowest cost to its consumers, every American benefits from this system of national food safety standards. HR 4167 builds on this record of success by extending the same approach to food safety standards used by USDA and other agencies and therefore I believe this bill should be supported. I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill and to oppose any amendments that weaken or attempt to gut the commonsense approach of this legislation. I yield back.