



February 23, 2006

Via Fax
202-225-3119

The Honorable Shelley Berkley
US House of Representatives
439 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Berkley:

On behalf of the Retail Association of Nevada (RAN), I urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act, and to support it when it comes up for a vote in the House of Representatives. It could be brought to the floor as early as Monday of next week. This bipartisan legislation will provide consumers with a single set of science-based food safety regulations for products sold across the country.

As you know, the Retail Association of Nevada represents hundreds of small Nevada businesses, many of which are in the food sales or distribution industries, as well as the chain grocers, drug stores, and department stores.

Under the current system, food regulation is composed of a variety of different and sometimes inconsistent requirements. H.R. 4167 would create a single nationwide system that will provide increased clarity for the consumer on food safety issues. By creating a mechanism for a thorough review of existing state regulations, the bill will result in the most comprehensive and scientifically sound food safety standards. The legislation would not impact state authority on traditional local food enforcement matters such as freshness dating, grade labeling and state inspection stamps as well as recalls and other state enforcement powers. It would preserve the authority of states to act if presented with an imminent hazard. States would also remain free to issue their own public warnings at any time and under any circumstances. H.R. 4167 will create a national system for the regulation of food products, which recognizes and integrates federal, state and local efforts. I hope you will agree to support and co-sponsor this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Mary Lau
President/CEO



February 23, 2006

Via Fax
202-225-5679

The Honorable Jim Gibbons
US House of Representatives
133 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gibbons:

On behalf of the Retail Association of Nevada (RAN), I urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act, and to support it when it comes up for a vote in the House of Representatives. It could be brought to the floor as early as Monday of next week. This bipartisan legislation will provide consumers with a single set of science-based food safety regulations for products sold across the country.

As you know, the Retail Association of Nevada represents hundreds of Nevada's retail-oriented small businesses, as well as the chain grocery, drug, and department stores. RAN appreciates your consistent support on business issues during your many years in the Nevada Legislature and as our Congressman.

Under the current system, food regulation is composed of a variety of different and sometimes inconsistent requirements. H.R. 4167 would create a single nationwide system that will provide increased clarity for the consumer on food safety issues. By creating a mechanism for a thorough review of existing state regulations, the bill will result in the most comprehensive and scientifically sound food safety standards. The legislation would not impact state authority on traditional local food enforcement matters such as freshness dating, grade labeling and state inspection stamps as well as recalls and other state enforcement powers. It would preserve the authority of states to act if presented with an imminent hazard. States would also remain free to issue their own public warnings at any time and under any circumstances. H.R. 4167 will create a national system for the regulation of food products, which recognizes and integrates federal, state and local efforts. I hope you will agree to support and co-sponsor this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Mary Lau
President/CEO