

# Support National Food Safety

## *Vote YES on H.R. 4167*

February 28, 2006

Dear Colleague:

H.R. 4167, the "National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005." provides consumers with the benefit of accurate, consistent product information by harmonizing fifty state labeling requirements into a uniform, national food labeling system.

In particular, the bill amends the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to provide that when the food and Drug Administration (FDA) has set a safety standard for a food ingredient, the states will abide by the same standard. The bill also provides for FDA regulation of product warnings required to be communicated by the regulated industry.

National uniformity of food regulation and labeling is not a new concept. Congress has previously recognized the benefits of uniformity in the area of nutrition labeling and pesticides. Consumers are already accustomed to uniform food labeling standards, they see them every time they purchase a product regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), such as beef or poultry. It is only foods regulated by the FDA, which do not have a national safety label. The National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005 completes the job for FDA regulated food products by establishing uniformity for food additives and warning labels.

The bill provides for a gradual transition to a national standard and grants states the ability to request that the FDA adopt their state standard and the FDA the flexibility to adjust standards for local considerations. Finally, the legislation maintains all state authority to regulate for food safety, seize tainted food or otherwise act in the case of an emergency.

Please join the bill's 226 bipartisan cosponsors by supporting this legislation when it is considered on the House floor this Thursday. If you have any questions please contact Mike Ward in my office at 5-4872 or at [mike.ward@mail.house.gov](mailto:mike.ward@mail.house.gov)

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers

Member of Congress