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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1319

**Support Uniform Food Labeling**  
**Vote Yes on H.R. 4167**

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March 1, 2006

Dear Colleague:

H.R. 4167 is a carefully constructed bill that would preserve important roles for the states in ensuring the safety of the food supply, while also providing for consistent science-based regulation. The current version of the uniformity legislation, which has been revised over several years of consideration to take into account criticisms of the earlier versions, is measured and balanced in its approach.

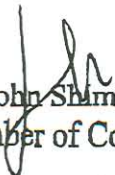
Warnings about the safety of food should be scientifically based and should be imposed only when there are clear benefits to the public health. Last year, for example, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) wrote to the California Attorney General Lockyer objecting to the efforts of his office to require warnings on fish and shellfish related to mercury. The FDA objected to Mr. Lockyer's efforts because they interfered with the federal efforts to provide a balanced message to consumers about the benefits of fish consumption and the importance of limiting mercury exposure.

Our food supply is national in scope. The consumers of all states deserve to have confidence that federal and state regulators, working together, are ensuring the safety of the food supply. H.R. 4167 will facilitate a collaborative approach to food safety while ensuring that we have a single national standard for food safety and warning requirements.

H.R. 4167 enjoys broad support because effective federal and state food safety efforts require that we let science guide the decisions and that we apply consistent national standards to the food that is transported all across our country and consumed in all fifty states.

Please join the bill's 226 bipartisan cosponsors by supporting this legislation when it is considered on the House floor next Thursday.

Sincerely,

  
John Shimkus  
Member of Congress

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