



August 2, 2006

The Honorable Tom Harkin
United States Senate
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
FAX: (202) 224-9369

Dear Senator Harkin:

I am writing to encourage your co sponsorship of the National Uniformity for Food Act, legislation that is very important to Sioux Honey Association and our 60 employees in your state. Sioux Honey Association was founded in 1921 in Sioux City and currently markets approximately 57,000,000 pounds of honey annually. Sioux Honey Association is a marketing cooperative with members in 25 states. The membership of the Association annually produces approximately 20-25% of the United States honey production.

The National Uniformity for Food Act would set uniform national food safety standards that will provide all Americans with the same high level of confidence and protection. The bill would ensure consumers have access to the same accurate, science-based food safety information, regardless of where they live. This is the same approach used when Congress established uniform requirements for nutrition labeling, allergen labeling, meat and poultry standards, over-the-counter medicines, medical devices and pesticide tolerances. The legislation will eliminate consumer confusion and bolster confidence because the information is consistent from state to state, formulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the world's leading food safety agency.

The National Uniformity for Food Act preserves appropriate roles for both the state and federal government when it comes to food safety. States' authority to preserve public health is protected and does not change. Under the legislation, states will continue to have authority for sanitation inspections at local restaurants, licensing and the protection of public health in the event of a food emergency or a terrorist threat.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this legislation. I look forward to hearing your views on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

SIoux HONEY ASSOCIATION

David Allibone
President/CEO

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