

NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOOD COALITION

(Sent to All Members of Congress)

Via Fax

February 21, 2006

The Honorable Mike Rogers
US House of Representatives
133 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

The undersigned organizations urge you to support H.R. 4167, the "National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005," when this legislation is brought to the House floor. The bill enjoys the support of 227 bipartisan co-sponsors and was reported by a bipartisan vote from the Energy and Commerce Committee on December 15, 2005.

H.R. 4167 amends the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act in the areas of food safety tolerance setting and warning labeling, taking a measured, science based approach, to achieve national uniformity. The bill contains a method for the orderly review and harmonization of existing state food safety adulteration laws and warnings as they relate to Federal law. No existing state law would be preempted without this review and those state requirements under petition would stay in effect during that review.

H.R. 4167 recognizes that it makes no sense to have a "patchwork quilt" of different states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. National uniformity in food laws is actually the norm, not the exception. All meat and poultry regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have national uniformity under the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act. Congress has continued to recognize the importance of uniformity in food regulation by enacting the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (NLEA) of 1990, which established uniform nutrition labeling requirements on manufactured foods. In addition, the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996 included a uniformity provision for pesticide tolerance standards in food products. H.R. 4167 completes the job by establishing national uniformity for food additives and warning labels.

This is a common-sense piece of legislation that will help consumers make educated decisions for themselves and their families in an ever-changing and currently confusing food labeling environment. Consumers deserve a single standard when it comes to food safety, and this bill will allow states and the FDA to work

collaboratively in establishing sound food safety policies that benefit, not confuse consumers.

We urge your vote for H.R. 4167.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ahold
Albertson's
Altria Group, Inc.
American Bakers Association
American Beverage Association
American Feed Industry Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Plastics Council
American Meat Institute
American Spice Trade Association
Animal Health Institute
Apple Products Research and Education
Council Association for Dressings and Sauces
Biscuit and Cracker Manufacturers Association
Bush Brothers & Company
Business Roundtable
Cadbury Schweppes plc
California Farm Bureau Federation
California League of Food Processors
Calorie Control Council
Campbell Soup Company
Cargill, Incorporated
Chocolate Manufacturers Association
The Coca-Cola Company
Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.
ConAgra Foods, Inc.
Council for Citizens Against Government Waste
Dean Foods Company
Del Monte Foods
Diamond Foods, Inc.
Flavor & Extract Manufacturers Association
Flowers Foods, Inc.
Food Marketing Institute
Food Products Association
Frito-Lay
Frozen Potato Products Institute
General Mills, Inc.
Gerber Products Company
Glass Packaging Institute

Godiva Chocolatier Inc.
Grain Foods Foundation
Grocery Manufacturers Association
H.J. Heinz Company
The Hershey Company
Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.
Independent Bakers Association
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils
International Association of Color Manufacturers
International Bottled Water Association
International Dairy Foods Association
International Food Additives Council
International Foodservice Distributors Association
International Formula Council
International Ice Cream Association
International Jelly and Preserves Association
The J.M. Smucker Company
Jewel-Osco
Kellogg Company
Kraft Foods Inc.
Land O' Lakes, Inc.
Maine Potato Board
Masterfoods USA
McCormick & Company, Inc.
McKee Foods Corporation
Milk Industry Foundation
The Minute Maid Company
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Margarine Manufacturers
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Cheese Institute
National Chicken Council
National Coffee Association of USA
National Confectioners Association
National Fisheries Institute
National Frozen Pizza Institute
National Grape Cooperative Association
National Grocers Association

National Institute of Oilseed Products
National Pasta Association
National Pecan Shellers Association
National Pork Producers Council
National Potato Council
National Restaurant Association
National Turkey Federation
Nestle USA
North American Millers' Association
Osco Drug
O-I
Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Association
Pepperidge Farm Incorporated
PepsiCo, Inc.
Pickle Packers' International
The Procter & Gamble Company
Quaker Oats
Rich Products Corporation

Rich SeaPak Corporation
Safeway
Sara Lee Corporation
Sav-on Drugs
The Schwan Food Company
Snack Food Association
Society of Glass and Ceramics Decorators
Tortilla Industry Association
Tropicana
Unilever
United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Vinegar Institute
Welch Foods, Inc.
Winn-Dixie
Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company
Yoplait