



Virginia Petroleum Convenience and Grocery Assn

Virginia Petroleum, Convenience and Grocery Association

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February 22, 2006

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
United States House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Sent via fax: 1-202-225-0437

Dear Congressman Wolf:

On behalf of the Virginia Petroleum Convenience and Grocery Association, I am writing to 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 favorably from the Energy and Commerce Committee on December 15, 2005.

This legislation is a top priority for our members. It recognizes that it makes no sense to have different states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. H.R. 4167 will instead provide consumers with a single set of consistent, science-based food safety regulations for food products sold in all 50 states.

Under the current system food regulations are composed of different and sometimes contradictory requirements. This imposes unnecessary complexity and cost on makers of food throughout the United States. By bringing a uniform code to our industry, the legislation represents a major step forward in assuring consumer confidence in the food they buy for their families.

The National Uniformity for Food Act takes a measured approach to national uniformity for food by providing a mechanism for a thorough, orderly review of existing state regulations that may differ from federal regulations. By

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granting states the ability to have the federal government adopt their state standard, this bill carefully balances the need for uniformity while respecting the important role state and local governments have in ensuring the safety of the food supply.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Successful passage of H.R. 4167 is critical to the members of the Virginia Petroleum, Convenience and Grocers Association and we urge you to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Barry L. Hawkins
Senior Vice President

CC:

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