



February 23, 2006

***IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO ALL
MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE***

Dear Representative:

I am writing to urge you to support H.R. 4167, the “National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005,” without any weakening amendments, when this legislation is brought to the House floor. The bill has 227 co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle and was reported favorably from the Energy and Commerce Committee on December 15, 2005.

It makes no sense to have individual states adopting different regulatory requirements on identical food products. H.R. 4167 will provide consumers with a single set of consistent, science-based food safety regulations for food products sold in all 50 states.

Currently, food regulations contain different and sometimes contradictory requirements. This imposes unnecessary complexity and cost on distributors of food throughout the United States because they distribute on a multi-state basis.

The National Uniformity for Food Act takes a measured approach to national uniformity for food. It would create a mechanism for a thorough, orderly review of existing state regulations that may differ from Federal regulations. By 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 many NAW members and we urge you to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dirk Van Dongen', with a vertical red line to its right.

Dirk Van Dongen
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jade West'.

Jade C. West
Senior Vice President-Government Relations

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