



April 28, 2015

Honorable Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

We are writing on behalf of the Coalition for Safe and Affordable Food about a significant development that could impact American consumers, businesses, farmers and food manufacturers. At a time when legislative consensus is hard to come by, it is notable that substantial bipartisan support is building behind a national, voluntary food labeling standard for products containing ingredients derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

Representatives Mike Pompeo (R-KS) and G.K. Butterfield (D-NC) have introduced H.R. 1599, the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act — bipartisan legislation that will ensure food labeling in the United States is uniform and science-based. The March 25 bill introduction came one day after the House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing on the critical role of biotechnology in the advancement and sustainability of American farming.

Today interest groups across the country are pushing state-level labeling mandates that will exacerbate consumer confusion and drive up food prices. Instead of informing consumers, these state initiatives are filled with loopholes, exempting as much as two-thirds of foods. The result will be higher food prices for hard working American families – as much as \$500 a year for a family of four, according to a study by Cornell University Professor William Lesser¹.

By putting a stop to the patchwork of state-based labeling requirements, the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act will protect consumers from unpredictable price variations and protect farmers and food manufacturers from having to contend with inconsistent and costly regulations.

GMOs have been an important part of our nation's food supply for the past 20 years, and 70-80 percent of the foods people eat in the United States contain ingredients that have been genetically engineered. In addition, the leading health and regulatory bodies in the world, from the World Health Organization to the American Medical Association, have all concluded GMOs are safe.

The Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act will give consumers, farmers, and small businesses certainty. The proposed legislation also would improve clarity for foods carrying a GMO-free label and provide uniform rules by creating a national certification program for foods that have been produced without bioengineering.

We encourage you to consider cosponsoring H.R. 1599, the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act and support its adoption – and we would be pleased to talk with you or provide any information on this issue. We believe that it is imperative that Congress pass a bipartisan bill this year to ensure people across our nation continue to have access to consistent science-based standards for food labeling.

Sincerely,

AACC International
AgriBank, FCB
Agribusiness Council of Indiana

Agricultural Council of Arkansas
Agricultural Council of California
Agricultural Retailers Association



AgriGrowth
Agri-Mark, Inc.
Alabama Farmers Cooperative, Inc.
Alabama Farmers Federation
Alabama Soybean and Corn Association
Alaska Farm Bureau
Amalgamated Sugar Company (ID, OR, WA)
American Agri-Women
American Bakers Association
American Beverage Association
American Crystal Sugar Company (MN, ND)
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Fruit and Vegetable Processors and Growers
Coalition
American Phytopathological Society
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists
American Soybean Association
American Sugarbeet Growers Association
Ameriflax
AMPI
Arizona Beverage Association
Arizona Cotton Growers Association
Arizona Farm Bureau
Arkansas Beverage Association
Arkansas Farm Bureau
Arkansas Seed Dealers Association
Arkansas Soybean Association
Associated Oregon Industries
Barrel O' Fun Snack Foods
BASF Corporation
Bayer CropScience, LP
Beet Sugar Development Foundation
Better Made Snack Foods, Inc.
Beverage Association of Tennessee
Big Horn Basin Beet Growers (WY)
Big Horn County Sugar Beet Growers (MT)
BIOForward
Bioscience Association of North Dakota
Biotechnology Industry Organization
Blue Diamond Growers

Bunge North America Inc.
Calcot, Ltd.
California Association of Winegrape Growers
California Beet Growers
California Canning Peach Association
California Farm Bureau
California Grain & Feed Association
California League of Food Processors
California Seed Association
California-Nevada Beverage Association
Cargill Inc.
Caudill Seed Company, Inc.
Ceres Solutions, LLP
Chemistry Council of New Jersey
CHS Inc
Co-Alliance LLP
CoBank
Colorado Association of Distributors
Colorado Association of Wheat Growers
Colorado Bioscience Association
Colorado Corn Growers Association
Colorado Dairy Farmers
Colorado Farm Bureau
Colorado Potato Legislative Association
Colorado Seed Industry Association
Colorado Sugarbeet Growers
Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey
ConAgra Foods, Inc.
Congressional Hunger Center
Connecticut Bioscience Growth Council
Cooperative Milk Producers Association
Corn Growers Association of North Carolina
Corn Producers Association of Texas
Corn Refiners Association
Council for Responsible Nutrition
CropLife America
Dairy Farmers of America
Delaware Farm Bureau
Delaware-Maryland Agribusiness Association
Dow AgroSciences
DSM Nutritional Products
DuPont
Elwyhee Beet Growers (ID)



Empire State Potato Growers Inc. (NY)
Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association
Exotic Wildlife Association
Farmers Cooperative Creamery
FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative
First District Association
Flavor & Extract Manufacturers Association
Florida Beverage Association
Florida Farm Bureau
Florida Feed Association, Inc.
Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association
Florida Seed Association, Inc.
Food Industry Alliance of New York State
Foremost Farms USA
Furmano's
General Mills Inc.
Georgia Beverage Association
Georgia Cattlemen's Association
Georgia Cotton Commission
Georgia Farm Bureau
Georgia-Florida Soybean Association
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Global Harvest Initiative
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois
Great Plains Canola Association
Grocery Manufacturers Association
GROWMARK, Inc
Harvey County Farm Bureau
Hawaii Crop Improvement Association
Hoosier Beverage Association
House-Autry Mills
Idaho Eastern-Oregon Seed Association
Idaho Farm Bureau
Idaho Grain Producers Association
Idaho Grower Shippers Association
Idaho Potato Commission
Idaho Soft Drink Association, Inc.
Idaho Sugar Beet Growers
Illinois Beverage Association
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Illinois Farm Bureau
Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Illinois Retail Merchants Association

Illinois Seed Trade Association
Illinois Soybean Association
Independent Bakers Association
Independent Professional Seed Association
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Corn Growers Association
Indiana Farm Bureau
Indiana Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Indiana Seed Trade Association
Indiana Soybean Alliance
Infant Nutrition Council of America
International Dairy Foods Association
International Franchise Association
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Iowa Farm Bureau
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Iowa Seed Association
Iowa Soybean Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Kansas Beverage Association
Kansas Cooperative Council
Kansas Corn Growers Association
Kansas Farm Bureau
Kansas Grain & Feed Association
Kansas Soybean Association
Kellogg Company
Kentucky Beverage Association
Kentucky Farm Bureau
Kentucky Life Science Council
Kentucky Soybean Association
Kitchen Cooked, Inc.
Kraft Foods Group, Inc.
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
LifeScience Alley
Louisiana Farm Bureau
Louisiana Soybean Association
Maine Beverage Association
Maine Potato Board
Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association
Maryland Farm Bureau
Maryland Grain Producers Association



Massachusetts Beverage Association
Massachusetts Biotechnology Council
McCormick & Company Inc.
MD/DC/DE Beverage Association
MichBio
Michigan Agri-Business Association
Michigan Bean Commission
Michigan Corn Growers Association
Michigan Farm Bureau
Michigan Food and Beverage Association
Michigan Manufacturers Association
Michigan Milk Producers Association
Michigan Soft Drink Association
Michigan Soybean Association
Michigan Sugar Company
Mid Kansas Cooperative Association
Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association
Midwest Food Processors Association
Midwest Forage Association
Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative (MN/ND)
Minnesota AgriGrowth Council
Minnesota Beverage association
Minnesota Canola Council
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers
Minnesota Farm Bureau
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
Minnesota Soybean Growers Association
Mississippi Farm Bureau
Mississippi Soybean Association
Missouri Agribusiness Association
Missouri Beverage Association
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Missouri Farm Bureau
Missouri Soybean Association
Mondelez International
Monsanto Company
Montana Beverage Association
Montana Grain Growers Association
Montana-Dakota Beet Growers (MT/ND)
National Agricultural Aviation Association
National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance

National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Confectioners Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Fisheries Institute
National Grain & Feed Association
National Grape Cooperative Association, Inc.
National Milk Producers Federation
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Potato Council
National Restaurant Association
National Turkey Federation
NEBCO Beet Growers (NE/CO)
Nebraska Cooperative Council
Nebraska Corn Growers Association
Nebraska Dry Bean Commission
Nebraska Farm Bureau
Nebraska Grain and Feed Association
Nebraska Soybean Association
Nebraska Sugarbeet Growers
Nevada Farm Bureau
New England Biotech Association
New Hampshire Farm Bureau
New Mexico Farm Bureau
New York Corn and Soybean Growers Association
New York Farm Bureau
New York State Agribusiness Association
New York State Grange
North American Millers Association
North Carolina Beverage Association
North Carolina Cotton Producers Association
North Carolina Farm Bureau
North Carolina Potato Association
North Carolina Soybean Producers Association
North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission
North Dakota Corn Growers Association
North Dakota Farm Bureau Federation
North Dakota Grain Dealers Association
North Dakota Soybean Growers Association
Northharvest Bean Growers Association



Northeast Dairy Foods Association
Northern Canola Growers Association
Northwest Dairy Association/Darigold, Inc.
Northwest Food Processors Association
Northwest Grocery Association
Nyssa-Nampa Sugarbeet Growers (ID/OR)
Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.
Ohio AgriBusiness Association
Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association
Ohio Dairy Producers Association
Ohio Farm Bureau
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Ohio Soft Drink Association
Ohio Soybean Association
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council, Inc
Oklahoma Grain & Feed Association
Oklahoma Seed Trade Association
Oklahoma Soybean Association
Oregon BioScience Association
Oregon Cherry Growers, Inc.
Oregon Farm Bureau
Oregon Feed and Grain Association
Oregon Retail Council
Oregon Seed Association
Pacific Coast Producers
Pacific Seed Association
Pennsylvania Beverage Association
Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
PepsiCo, Inc.
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.
Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.
Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.
Pretzels, Inc.
Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers (ND/MN)
Retail Association of Nevada
Retailers Association of Massachusetts
Rhode Island Beverage Association
Rhode Island Farm Bureau
Rocky Mountain Food Industry Association
Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.
Rudolph Foods

Savor Seasonings, LLC
Select Milk Producers, Inc.
Shearer's Foods, LLC
Sidney Sugars Incorporated (MT)
Snack Food Association
South Carolina Beverage Association
South Carolina Farm Bureau
South Carolina Soybean Association
South Dakota Agri-Business Association
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives
South Dakota Farm Bureau
South Dakota Grain & Feed Association
South Dakota Soybean Association
South Dakota Wheat Growers
South Texas Cotton & Grain Association
Southeast Milk, Inc.
Southern Cotton Growers, Inc.
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative
Southern Montana Sugarbeet Growers
Southern Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association
Southern States Cooperative
St. Alban's Cooperative Creamery
Tennessee Cattlemen's Association
Tennessee Dairy Producers
Tennessee Farm Bureau
Tennessee Pork Producers Association
Tennessee Poultry Association
Tennessee Soybean Association
Texas Grain & Feed Association
Texas Poultry Federation
Texas Seed Trade Association
Texas Soybean Association
Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association
The Coca-Cola Company
The Hershey Company
The J.M. Smucker Company
U.S. Beet Sugar Association
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Dry Bean Council
Unilever
United Dairywomen of Arizona
United Potato Growers of America
Utah Beverage Association



Utah Food Industry Association
Utah Retail Merchants Association
Utz Quality Foods
Vermont Farm Bureau
Virginia Beverage Association
Virginia Farm Bureau
Virginia Soybean Association
Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association
Washington Farm Bureau
Washington Friends of Farms & Forests
Washington State Council of Farmer Cooperatives
Washington State Potato Commission
Welch Foods Inc.

Western Plant Health Association
Western Sugar Cooperative (CO, MT, NE, WY)
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association
Wisconsin Beverage Association
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation
Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce
Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association
Wisconsin Soybean Association
Wisconsin Technology Council
Wise Foods
Wyandot, Inc.
Wyoming Sugar Company
Wyoming Sugar Growers

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ⁱ <http://dyson.cornell.edu/people/profiles/docs/LabelingNY.pdf>