



November 27, 2018

The Honorable Dave Loebsack  
United States House of Representatives  
1527 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack,

We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to support and cosponsor the Accurate Labels Act (H.R. 6022), introduced by Representatives Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) and Kurt Schrader (D-OR) and cosponsored by: Representatives Brett Guthrie (R-KY), Collin Peterson, (D-MN), Buddy Carter (R-GA), Filemon Vela (D-TX), Richard Hudson (R-NC), Jim Costa, (D-CA), Andy Harris (R-MD), Sanford Bishop (D-GA), Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Vincente Gonzalez (D-TX), Jackie Walorski (R-IN) and Henry Cuellar (D-TX).

American consumers have a right to clear, accurate and meaningful information about the products they buy. Our respective industries are committed to providing meaningful transparency to consumers. The Accurate Labels Act would establish a risk-based federal standard for labeling and ingredient disclosure requirements that is substantiated by sound science. This bipartisan legislation is necessary to provide consumers with clarity amidst a confusing patchwork of state and local labeling and disclosure laws.

Unfortunately, states and localities have implemented or are considering dozens of ingredient disclosure and warning label requirements related to food and agriculture and other consumer products that are often based on limited or insufficient information. For example, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recently blocked a 2015 San Francisco ordinance that requires advertisers of sugar-sweetened beverages to post health warnings, arguing that the warning conflicts with statements by the Food and Drug Administration. Despite this ruling, similar proposals have been introduced in Hawaii, Massachusetts, New York and Baltimore, Maryland. Legislation has also been introduced in other states that would impose additional labeling and disclosure requirements on a variety of products, from multivitamins to cosmetics.

Now is the time to establish a federal, science-based solution. State- and locally-mandated labeling schemes that require unjustified warnings damage consumer confidence, hinder interstate commerce, and often disparage new science and technology.

This important issue needs a timely solution before a patchwork of labeling laws causes additional burdens for Iowa farmers, small businesses, retailers and manufacturers. On behalf of a coalition representing over 80 national trade associations, we urge you to support and cosponsor the Accurate Labels Act to ensure that consumers have appropriate, meaningful information based on a credible, scientific standard when making purchasing decisions.

Sincerely yours,

American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Bakers Association  
American Beverage Association

American Chemistry Council  
American Coatings Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers  
Auto Care Association  
Consumer Technology Association  
EPS Industry Alliance  
Food Marketing Institute  
Foodservice Packaging Institute  
Frozen Potato Products Institute  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
GROWMARK  
Hormel Foods  
Independent Bakers Association  
International Bottled Water Association  
International Dairy Foods Association  
Iowa Farm Bureau  
Juice Products Association  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
National Association of Convenience Stores  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Milk Producers Federation  
Natural Products Association  
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association  
Plastics Industry Association  
Retail Industry Leaders Association  
Schnuck Markets, Inc.  
SPRI, Inc.  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United Fresh Produce Association  
Western Growers Association