

July 28, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned food, agriculture, ingredient, manufacturing, retail, and consumer products organizations respectfully urge Congress to pursue bipartisan food policy reforms that strengthen consumer confidence, preserve food affordability, and maintain a safe, reliable, and secure national food supply.

Americans are increasingly demanding greater transparency about the foods they purchase and consume. Industry recognizes those concerns and supports efforts to strengthen public confidence in the food regulatory system. We are not arguing to maintain the status quo. As discussions continue around food and nutrition policy reforms, Congress has a unique opportunity to address consumer concerns through a science-based federal framework that reinforces public trust while preserving a safe, affordable, and reliable food supply.

At the same time, a growing patchwork of state laws threatens to create conflicting compliance obligations for manufacturers, retailers, distributors, farmers, and food producers operating in interstate commerce. Differing state policies will increase compliance costs, disrupt supply chains, cause consumer confusion and raise food prices for American families. Studies estimate that state ingredient disclosure mandates enacted in 2025 alone could increase annual grocery costs by as much as 12 percent. As additional states pursue similar measures, those costs will continue to compound.

Congress has a narrowing window to act. Without a clear federal framework, states will continue to fill the policy vacuum with divergent ingredient review, use, labeling, and disclosure requirements that undermine the national consistency consumers, regulators, and food producers depend upon. Once state-specific requirements become embedded throughout the food supply chain, restoring national uniformity will become significantly more difficult and more costly.

We firmly believe that any federal reform effort should:

- **Establish and preserve a single, uniform national standard** for food ingredient review, use, and labeling requirements.
- **Reaffirm FDA's role as the primary federal authority** responsible for setting both the floor and ceiling for food ingredient safety and regulation.
- **Advance transparency and consumer confidence** providing more information to the consumer through practical, science-based reforms that are consistent nationwide.
- **Modernize the Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) framework** in a manner that is risk-based, workable, and uniformly implemented across all states.
- **Protect affordability and supply chain resilience**, ensuring continued access to safe, nutrient dense, and competitively priced food product choices.

Consumers should not have to choose between confidence in the food system and the ability to afford groceries. Americans continue to face significant financial pressure, and food prices remain a top concern for families across the U.S. As policymakers consider changes to the food system, they should ensure proposed actions are grounded in sound science and meaningfully improve public health outcomes while avoiding unintended consequences that increase costs, reduce consumer choice, disrupt supply chains, or limit access to safe and nutrient dense food choices.

We respectfully urge Congress to seize this opportunity and act before a fragmented state regulatory landscape becomes entrenched. The longer Congress waits, the more difficult and expensive it will become to preserve a nationally consistent food system that delivers safe, affordable, and accessible food to American families. The stakes for consumers, farmers, food manufacturers, retailers, and the broader U.S. food supply chain are too high to allow 50 different regulatory regimes to emerge.

We appreciate your leadership and stand ready to work with you to develop bipartisan legislation that strengthens consumer trust, reinforces FDA's central role, and ensures the continued safety, affordability, and reliability of the American food supply.

Respectfully,

Admiral Beverage
Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Alabama Grocers Association
Alliance for Plant Based Foods
American Bakers Association

American Beverage Association
American Chemistry Council
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Frozen Food Institute
American Soybean Association
American Spice Trade Association
Arizona Beverage Association
Arizona Food Marketing Alliance
Arkansas Beverage Association
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas
Associated Food Stores
Associated Industries of Vermont
Associated Wholesale Grocers, Inc.
Aunt Millie's Bakeries
Beech-Nut Nutrition Company
Big Y Foods, Inc.
Bimbo Bakeries USA, Inc.
Boardman Foods, Inc.
Brookshire Grocery Company
Brown's Super Stores Inc.
Bunge
California Automatic Vendors Council (CAVC)
California Canning Peach Association
California Farm Bureau
California Grocers Association
California League of Food Producers
California Retailers Association
California Strawberry Commission
Calorie Control Council
Can Manufacturers Institute
Cargill
Carolinas Food Industry Council
CBIA
Central Valley Ag Cooperative
Cingari Family Markets
Collins Family Markets
Colorado Beverage Association
Conagra Brands
Connecticut Food Association
Consumer Brands Association
Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA)
Corn Refiners Association
Council for Responsible Nutrition
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York

Dairy Institute of California
Danone U.S.A.
DeCicco & Sons
Delaware Food Industry Council
Drust Markets dba ShopRite
Edible Oil Producers Association
Energy Marketers of America
Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association
Fareway Stores, Inc.
Ferrara Candy Company
Ferrero USA
Flora Food Group
Florida Beverage Association
Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Florida Retail Federation
FMI- The Food Industry Association
Food Contact Safety Council
Food Industry Alliance of NYS
Food Ingredient Safety Coalition
Food Northwest
Frey Farms
Gallagher Family Markets, LLC
General Mills
Georgia Agribusiness Council
Georgia Beverage Association
Georgia Farm Bureau
Georgia Food Industry Association
Gerrity's Supermarkets
Glass Gardens Inc.
Grade A Market Inc
Greenfield's ShopRite
Gruma Corporation dba Mission Foods
Hoosier Beverage Association
Hormel Foods Corporation
Hy-Vee, Inc.
Idaho Retailers Association
Idaho Soft Drink Association
Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Independent Bakers Association
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Farm Bureau
Indiana Retail Council
International Association of Color Manufacturers

International Dairy Foods Association
International Food Additives Council
International Foodservice Distributors Association
Iowa Association of Business and Industry
Iowa Automatic Merchandising Association
Iowa Grocery Industry Association
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Joseph Family Markets LLC
Juice Products Association
Kansas Beverage Association
Kansas Farm Bureau
Kanza Cooperative Association
Kenny Family ShopRites of Delaware
Ken's Foods
Kentucky Beverage Association
Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation
Keurig Dr Pepper
Keystone Cooperative, Inc.
Klein's ShopRite of Maryland
KVAT Food Stores dba Food City
Louisiana Beverage Association
Louisiana Retailers Association
Maine Beverage Association
MAMA-Mississippi Automatic Merchandisers Association
Marinalg International
Maryland Farm Bureau
Maryland Retailers Alliance
Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation
Massachusetts Food Association
McCain Foods
McCormick & Company, Inc.
McKee Foods Corporation
McMenamin Family ShopRite
Meat Institute
Michigan Beverage Association
Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association
Michigan Farm Bureau
Michigan Manufacturers Association
Michigan Retailers Association
Mid-America Automatic Merchandising Association
Midwest Food Products Association
Midwest Retail & Grocery Alliance
Minnesota AgriGrowth
Minnesota Beverage Association

Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
Minnesota Grocers Association
Minnesota Retailers
Missouri Beverage Association
Missouri Farm Bureau
Missouri Grocers Association
Missouri Retailers Association
Mondelēz International
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA)
National Confectioners Association
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Milk Producers Federation
National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA)
National Pasta Association
National Pork Producers Council
National Potato Council
National Restaurant Association
National Sunflower Association
National Turkey Federation
Nature's Touch Frozen Foods LLC
Nebraska Beverage Association
Nebraska Grocers Industry Association
Nebraska Retail Federation
Nestlé USA
New England Refreshment Services Association
New Hampshire Grocers Association
New Jersey Farm Bureau
New Jersey Food Council
New Mexico Beverage Association
New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau
New York Farm Bureau
NORTERA
North American Millers' Association
North Carolina Beverage Association
North Carolina Chamber
North Carolina Farm Bureau
North Carolina Retail Merchants Association
North Dakota Grocers Association
Northwest Automatic Vending Association
Nutrinova

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Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc
Ohio Beverage Association
Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Energy & Convenience Association
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council, Inc.
Oklahoma Grocers Association
Oregon Beverage Association
Oregon Business & Industry
Pacific Coast Producers
Pan-O-Gold Baking Company
Peanut and Tree Nut Processors Association
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
PepsiCo
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Brookfield Inc.
Pet Food Institute
PRINTING United Alliance
PRUSA
Ravitz Family ShopRite Supermarkets
Reser's Fine Foods
Retailers Association of Massachusetts
Rhode Island Farm Bureau Federation
Rich Products Corporation
Ronetco Supermarkets Inc.
S&C Foods
Saker ShopRites
Shop Rite of Hunterdon County Inc
ShopRite of New London
ShopRite of Norwich
Shop-Rite Supermarkets, Inc.
Simplot Global Food LLC
SNAC International
South Carolina Beverage Association
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives
South Dakota Retailers Association
Sunsweet Growers Inc.
Superior Foods International, LLC
Supermarkets of Cherry Hill Inc
Tennessee Automatic Merchandising Association (TAMA)
Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation
Tennessee Farmers Cooperative
Tennessee Grocers & Convenience Store Association

Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council
Texas Beverage Association
Texas Farm Bureau
Texas Retailers Association
The Association for Dressings & Sauces
The Coca-Cola Company
The Fresh Grocer
The J.M. Smucker Co.
The Kraft Heinz Company
The Kroger Co.
The Oklahoma Beverage Association
The State Chamber of Oklahoma
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce
TLMI (Tag & Label Manufacturers Institute, Inc)
TN Fuel & C-Store Association
TRSA, The Association for the Linen, Uniform and Facility Services Industry
Twin City Foods, Inc
Tyson Foods
U.S. Canola Association
UNFI
United States Bakery
US Foods, Inc.
USA Rice
Utah Beverage Association
Utah Farm Bureau Federation
Utah Food Industry Association
Utah Retail Merchants Association
VE Solutions
Virginia Agribusiness Council
Virginia Beverage Association
Virginia Farm Bureau Federation
Virginia Manufacturers Association
Wakefern
Washington Beverage Association
Washington Food Industry Association
Waverly Markets, LLC
Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.
Wells Enterprises, Inc.
West Virginia Beverage Association
White Castle System, Inc.
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce
Wisconsin Retailers Alliance
WK Kellogg Co

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CC:

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

The Honorable Bernie Sanders, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce