
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO OPPOSE HOUSE RESOLUTION 4167, THE "NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOODS ACT OF 2005", AND TO ENCOURAGE ONGOING DIALOGUE TO RETAIN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER FOOD SAFETY ISSUES.

1 WHEREAS, the food safety system in the United States is the
2 shared responsibility of local, state, and federal partners; and
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4 WHEREAS, approximately 80 percent of food safety
5 inspections in the nation are completed at state and local
6 levels; and
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8 WHEREAS, consumers are well served by being able to come to
9 their local or state governments to have food safety complaints
10 and issues addressed; and
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12 WHEREAS, federal agencies frequently turn to state
13 authorities to deal with imminent health hazards; and
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15 WHEREAS, it is imperative that states have the right to act
16 quickly to address local and statewide public health concerns
17 that cannot be anticipated or are not adequately addressed
18 nationally; and
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20 WHEREAS, the existing food safety system forms the first
21 line of defense against the threat of a terrorist attack on our
22 nation's food supply; and
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24 WHEREAS, the passage of House Resolution 4167, the
25 "National Uniformity for Foods Act of 2005", is meant to provide
26 uniform food safety warnings and notification, but, instead, may
27 have the adverse effect of undermining proven consumer
28 protection efforts by pre-empting state and local laws governing
29 food safety, the labeling of food products, and the issuance of
30 warning notifications; and



1 WHEREAS, the National Association of State Departments of
2 Agriculture that represents the directors of the state
3 departments of agriculture in the fifty states and four
4 territories, the Association of Food and Drug Officials, and the
5 Association of American Feed Control Control Officials, have
6 voiced strong opposition to House Resolution 4167; and
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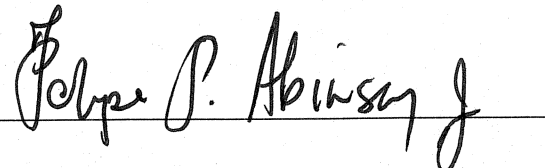
8 WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii has
9 expressed concern that House Resolution 4167 could impact
10 Hawaii's milk distribution, food additive laws, and restaurant
11 safety laws, and has joined with thirty-five other states'
12 attorneys general in opposition to House Resolution 4167; now,
13 therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2006, that the United States Congress is urged to oppose
18 House Resolution 4167, thereby recognizing and leaving intact
19 state and local government control over food safety issues; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body respectfully requests
22 that the United States Congress encourage the National
23 Association of State Departments of Agriculture and the
24 Association of Food and Drug Officials to continue discussions
25 with food industry representatives to address the concerns
26 enumerated in this measure and to retain state and local
27 government control over food safety issues; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States
31 Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
32 and members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:



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