November 3, 2025

Dear Member of Congress,

We, the undersigned groups, write to convey our strong endorsement of the Transparency, Readability, Understandability, Truth, and Helpfulness (TRUTH) in Labeling Act of 2025. The bill would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to finalize the Food and Drug Administration's proposed rule titled "Food Labeling: Front-of-Package Nutrition Information" which aims to establish new consumer-friendly nutrition labels on the front of food packages, making it easier for consumers to select healthy foods. It would ensure that the final rule aligns with evidence-based recommendations in the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans to limit sodium, added sugars, and saturated fat in the diet.

FDA's proposed rule would mandate front-of-package labels (FOPNL) detailing if a product is "high", "med", or "low" in sodium, added sugars, or saturated fat on foods marketed for adults and children age 4 years and older. The TRUTH in Labeling Act would ensure that the final rule takes an even more streamlined approach to clearly highlight when products are high in sodium, added sugars, or saturated fat, and include an exclamation point icon to draw attention. It would further ensure that the final rule applies to foods for infants and young children and requires a disclosure on products containing non-nutritive sweeteners (NNS) to offset a potential unintended effect of FOPNL leading to an increase in NNS in the food supply.<sup>1</sup>

Dozens of other countries,<sup>2</sup> including Canada and Mexico, already have FOPNL policies that identify foods containing excess sodium, saturated fat, and sugar.<sup>3,4</sup> Studies show these types of policies have been effective at spurring healthier choices by consumers<sup>5</sup> and healthier products from food companies.<sup>6</sup> The TRUTH in Labeling Act would align U.S. policy with policies in other countries that have seen proven benefits from FOPNL.<sup>7,8</sup>

There is a high level of support for simple, front-of-package nutrition labels from the American public. A national poll of 3,010 U.S. adults in March 2023 found that 75% would support a policy requiring simple front-of-package nutrition labels, and only 9% would oppose. Support was high among Democrats (83%), Republicans (68%), and Independents (73%).

Now is a critical time to support bold action to improve the American diet, as poor diet is a leading cause of preventable disease in the U.S., contributing to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Americans each year. <sup>10</sup> A 2025 modeling study estimated that "High In"-style FOPNL would prevent between 96,926 and 137,261 deaths from diet-related chronic disease in the United States. <sup>11</sup>

Please support the health of our nation by supporting the TRUTH in Labeling Act!

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Advocates for Better Children's Diets

American Academy of Family Physicians

American Heart Association

American Nutrition Association

American Public Health Association

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Association of State Public Health Nutritionists

B.Komplete

Balanced

The Center for Black Health & Equity

Center for Science in the Public Interest

ChangeLab Solutions

Consumer Federation of America

Consumer Reports

Community Food Advocates

Food & Water Watch

Global Health Advocacy Incubator

Healthy Babies Bright Futures

Healthy Food America

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)

Interfaith Public Health Network

## International Fresh Produce Association

Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy, Program in Nutrition, Teachers College, Columbia University

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of School Nurses

National Consumers League

National WIC Association

Partnership for a Healthier America

Public Health Advocacy Institute

Resolve to Save Lives

Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health

Society of Behavioral Medicine

Socially Responsible Investment Coalition

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Zancheta Ricardo C, Corvalán C, Smith Taillie L, Quitral V, Reyes M. Changes in the Use of Non-nutritive Sweeteners in the Chilean Food and Beverage Supply After the Implementation of the Food Labeling and Advertising Law. *Front Nutr.* 2021;8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Global Food Research Program UNC-Chapel Hill. *Front-of-package labeling*. March 2025. Accessed June 10, 2025. <a href="https://www.globalfoodresearchprogram.org/resource/front-of-package-label-maps/">https://www.globalfoodresearchprogram.org/resource/front-of-package-label-maps/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Government of Canada. *Nutrition labelling: Front-of-package nutrition symbol*. February 2023. <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-labelling-changes/front-package.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-labelling-changes/front-package.html</a>. Accessed December 13, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Gobierno de Mexico. *Etiquetado frontal de alimentos y bebidas*. October 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Song J, Brown MK, Tan M, et al. Impact of color-coded and warning nutrition labelling schemes: A systematic review and network meta-analysis. *PLoS Med*. Oct 2021;18(10):e1003765.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Reyes M, Smith Taillie L, Popkin B, Kanter R, Vandevijvere S, Corvalán C. Changes in the amount of nutrient of packaged foods and beverages after the initial implementation of the Chilean Law of Food Labelling and Advertising: A nonexperimental prospective study. *PLoS Med.* Jul 2020;17(7):e1003220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Taillie LS, Bercholz M, Popkin B, Rebolledo N, Reyes M, Corvalán C. Decreases in purchases of energy, sodium, sugar, and saturated fat 3 years after implementation of the Chilean food labeling and marketing law: An interrupted time series analysis. *PLOS Medicine*. 2024;21(9):e1004463. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1004463

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Rebolledo N, Ferrer-Rosende P, Reyes M, Smith Taillie L, Corvalán C. Changes in the critical nutrient content of packaged foods and beverages after the full implementation of the Chilean Food Labelling and Advertising Law: a repeated cross-sectional study. *BMC Medicine*. 2025;23(1):46. doi:10.1186/s12916-025-03878-6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Center for Science in the Public Interest. *Widespread Support for Mandatory Front-of-Package Labeling in the United States*. April 2023. <a href="https://www.cspi.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/FOPNL%20Public%20Opinion%20Fact%20Sheet">https://www.cspi.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/FOPNL%20Public%20Opinion%20Fact%20Sheet</a> final.pdf. Accessed July 10, 2025.

<sup>10</sup> Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation. *Global Burden of Disease Compare Tool*. 2019. https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. Accessed December 13, 2023.

11 Flexner N, Zaltz D, Greenthal E, et al. Estimating the dietary and health impact of implementing mandatory front-of-package nutrient disclosures in the US: a policy scenario modeling analysis. *PLoS ONE*. 2025;20(2): e0312638. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0312638.