



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **AFFI Urges U.S. Senate to Take Action on Responsible Food Labeling Legislation**

**McLean, VA** – The [American Frozen Food Institute](http://www.affi.org) (AFFI) today urged the U.S. Senate to reject state efforts to create a patchwork of state laws and regulations mandating the labeling of foods containing genetically enhanced ingredients (GMOs).

AFFI called on the U.S. Senate to pass legislation this fall that would create a responsible and effective federal labeling program following today's Senate Agriculture Committee hearing on the safety of GMOs and the importance of biotechnology.

"AFFI commends the Senate Agriculture Committee for examining the benefits and importance of foods containing genetically enhanced ingredients," said AFFI Interim President Joseph Clayton. "AFFI applauds the committee for acknowledging the overwhelming scientific evidence that GMO ingredients are safe and for recognizing the significant role GMOs serve in meeting the demands of our nation's food supply.

"AFFI urges the Senate to pass legislation that would prevent the creation of a complicated patchwork of state-based labeling rules that would increase, rather than reduce, consumer confusion and food prices. The U.S House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed legislation earlier this year that would do just that. It is now time for the Senate to follow suit."

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the "Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015" (H.R. 1599) by a vote of 275-150 in July.

H.R. 1599 requires food makers to receive U.S. Food and Drug Administration certification in writing that their products have been deemed safe to enter the commercial market, and ensures consistency between the non-GMO certification processes established at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other voluntary labeling programs. The legislation also includes a federal labeling standard for the definition of "natural" food.

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*The American Frozen Food Institute is the national trade association promoting and representing the interests of all segments of the frozen food and beverage industry. AFFI works to foster industry development and growth, and advocates before legislative and regulatory entities on the industry's behalf. More information can be found at [www.affi.org](http://www.affi.org).*