

December 14, 2023

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 (S.3512/H.R.6766). The bill, introduced by Senator Richard Blumenthal and Representative Jan Schakowsky, along with Senator Cory Booker, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, and Senator Ed Markey, would establish new consumer-friendly nutrition labels on the front of food packages, making it easier for consumers to select healthy foods.

Dozens of other countries,¹ including Canada and Mexico, already have policies requiring simple front-of-package nutrition labels that identify foods containing excess sodium, saturated fat, and sugar.^{2,3} Studies show these types of policies have been effective at spurring healthier choices by consumers⁴ and healthier products from food companies.⁵

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%).⁶

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.⁷

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

Sincerely,

Advocates for Children's Diets
American Public Health Association
Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Balanced
ChangeLab Solutions
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Consumer Federation of America
Consumer Reports
Corporate Accountability
Food & Water Watch
Hattie Mae & Pals Foundation
Healthy Food America
Interfaith Public Health Network

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Center for Health Research
Public Health Advocacy Institute
Redstone Global Center for Prevention & Wellness
Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health
Society for Behavioral Medicine
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior

¹ Global Food Research Program. *Front-of-Package Labeling Maps*. February 2023. https://www.globalfoodresearchprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/GFRP-UNC_FOPL_maps_2023_02.pdf. Accessed December 13, 2023.

² Government of Canada. *Nutrition labelling: Front-of-package nutrition symbol*. February 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-labelling-changes/front-package.html>. Accessed December 13, 2023.

³ Gobierno de Mexico. *Etiquetado frontal de alimentos y bebidas*. October 2021. <https://www.gob.mx/promosalud/acciones-y-programas/etiquetado-de-alimentos>

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Center for Science in the Public Interest. *Widespread Support for Mandatory Front-of-Package Labeling in the United States*. April 2023. https://www.cspinet.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/FOPNL%20Public%20Opinion%20Fact%20Sheet_final.pdf. Accessed December 13, 2023.

⁷ Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation. *Global Burden of Disease Compare Tool*. 2019. <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/>. Accessed December 13, 2023.