



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 23, 2016

Dear Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders & Representative Welch,

We, the undersigned members of the Vermont Legislature, wish to express our gratitude for your ongoing commitment to defend Vermont's food labeling bill. Act 120, signed into law two years ago, was a landmark disclosure requirement for food produced with genetic engineering that was overwhelmingly supported by our shared constituents. It was yet another example of how our small state can show transformative leadership on important issues. Act 120 is in keeping with Vermonters' strong connection to the land and sustainable food systems, states' rights to act as laboratories of democracy, religious liberty, and freedom of information in an open marketplace. *It significantly advances our State's important interests in public health, environmental protection, and preventing consumer confusion.*

Many of the large food manufacturers and chemical companies would like the federal government to set limits on the public's access to information. *However, companies routinely change their labels in response to government regulation or public pressure without negatively impacting their business or the public at large.* Recently, Campbell Soup Company joined those others, showing that it is truly in the best interest of the public and the industry to provide consumers with the information they need.

**We respectfully request that you continue to oppose efforts that would compromise or effectively negate any state's right to require factual, non-controversial information on food packaging or retail containers.** If a national standard is proposed, we would only be satisfied if it required mandatory labeling in clear and accurate language directly on the package or within sight, and is not reliant on voluntary disclosures, QR codes, smartphones, internet service, or any other alternative that would obstruct or otherwise infringe on the consumer's ability to immediately access information at the point of selection.

We are more than willing to discuss these issues with you or your staff if you have any further questions. Thank you for your service to the people of Vermont!

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Members of the Vermont House & Senate

CC: US Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee

# Members of the Vermont House, 2015-2016

Ancel <i>Carol Ancel</i>	González <i>VGG</i>	Olsen
Bancroft	Grad <i>WGG</i>	O'Sullivan <i>John O'Sullivan</i>
Bartholomew <i>John Bartholomew</i>	Graham	Parent
Baser	Greshin	Partridge <i>Carol W. Partridge</i>
Batchelor	Haas <i>Dan Haas</i>	Patt <i>Melvin Patt</i>
Beck	Head <i>HH</i>	Pearce
Berry <i>V.S. Berry</i>	Hebert	Pearson <i>Chris Pearson</i>
Beyor	Helm <i>RH</i>	Poirier <i>Pat Poirier</i>
Bissonnette <i>Glenn Bissonnette</i>	Higley	Potter <i>Dan Potter</i>
Botzow <i>Bill Botzow</i>	Hooper <i>WH</i>	Pugh <i>Tom Pugh</i>
Branagan <i>CB</i>	Hubert	Purvis
Brennan	Huntley <i>HB</i>	Quimby
Briglin <i>TB</i>	Jerman <i>WJ</i>	Rachelson <i>PR</i>
Browning <i>WUB</i>	Jewett <i>WJ</i>	Ram <i>Karla Ram</i>
Burditt <i>TBB</i>	Johnson <i>WJ</i>	Russell <i>Robert Russell</i>
Burke <i>WMB</i>	Juskiewicz <i>Paul Juskiewicz</i>	Ryerson <i>Wajoie Ryerson</i>
Buxton <i>Smith Buxton</i>	Keenan <i>Keenan</i>	Savage
Canfield	Kitzmler <i>WFK</i>	Scheuermann
Carr <i>JAC</i>	Klein <i>JK</i>	Sharpe <i>DDS</i>
Chesnut-Tangerman <i>RCT</i>	Komline	Shaw, C.
Christie	Krebs <i>DK</i>	Shaw, L.
Clarkson <i>DK</i>	Krowinski <i>DK</i>	Sheldon <i>Amy Sheldon</i>
Cole <i>JCC</i>	LaClair	Sibilia <i>CS</i>
Condon <i>DK</i>	LaLonde <i>Martin LaLonde</i>	Smith, H.
Connor <i>DK</i>	Lanpher <i>Riane Lanpher</i>	Smith, S.
Conquest <i>DK</i>	Lawrence	Stevens <i>DK</i>
Copeland-Hanzas <i>Son Copeland</i>	Lefebvre	Strong
Corcoran	Lenes <i>Jan Lenes</i>	Stuart <i>Valerie Stuart</i>
Cupoli <i>PC</i>	Lewis	Sullivan <i>MS</i>
Dakin, L. <i>Yd</i>	Lippert <i>Bill Lippert</i>	Sweeney <i>Donna Sweeney</i>
Dakin, M. <i>MD</i>	Long <i>Emily Long</i>	Tate
Dame	Lucke <i>Abigail M. Lucke</i>	Terenzini
Davis <i>JD</i>	Macraig <i>JM</i>	Till <i>George A. Till</i>
Deen <i>JD</i>	Manwaring <i>APM</i>	Toleno <i>DK</i>
Devereux	Marcotte	Toll <i>DK</i>
Dickinson	Martel	Townsend <i>Karla F. Townsend</i>
Donahue <i>DK</i>	Martin <i>DK</i>	Trieber <i>DK</i>
Donovan <i>John Donovan</i>	Masland <i>DK</i>	Troiano <i>JOSEPH TROIANO</i>
Eastman <i>DK</i>	McCormack <i>DK</i>	Turner
Emmons <i>DK</i>	McCoy	Van Wyck
Evans <i>DK</i>	McCullough <i>DK</i>	Viens
Fagan <i>DK</i>	McFaun <i>DK</i>	Walz <i>DK</i>
Feltus	Miller <i>DK</i>	Webb <i>DK</i>
Fields <i>DK</i>	Morris <i>DK</i>	Willhoit
Fiske	Morrissey	Wood <i>DK</i>
Forguites <i>DK</i>	Mrowicki <i>DK</i>	Woodward <i>DK</i>
Frank <i>DK</i>	Murphy <i>DK</i>	Wright
French <i>DK</i>	Myers	Yantacka <i>DK</i>
Gage	Nuovo <i>DK</i>	Young <i>DK</i>
Gamache	O'Brien <i>DK</i>	Zagar <i>DK</i>



# Members of the Vermont Senate, 2015-2016

Ashe <i>Tim Ashe</i>	MacDonald <i>Al MacDonald</i>
Ayer <i>Chaire Ayer</i>	Mazza
Balint <i>Bent Balint</i>	McAllister
Baruth <i>Philip Baruth</i>	McCormack <i>Richard J. McCormack</i>
Benning	Mullin
Bray <i>Alfred Bray</i>	Nitka <i>L. (ANITKA)</i>
Campbell <i>Jack Campbell</i>	Pollina <i>OR</i>
Campion <i>BJ</i>	Rodgers <i>John S. Rodgers</i>
Collamore	Sears <i>[Signature]</i>
Cummings <i>Paul Cummings</i>	Sirotkin <i>[Signature]</i>
Degree	Snelling <i>Al Snelling</i>
Doyle <i>Ben Doyle</i>	Starr <i>R.A. Starr</i>
Flory	Westman
Kitchel <i>Jane Kitchel</i>	White <i>Jeanette White</i>
Lyons <i>Dyane Lyons</i>	Zuckerman <i>David Zuckerman</i>