



Food & Beverage ISSUE ALLIANCE

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the food, beverage and consumer packaged goods industry, we write to urge you to advance the confirmation of Scott Gottlieb, M.D. as Commissioner of the Food & Drug Administration.

The FDA is a very important part of ensuring that Americans continue to enjoy the safest consumer products in the world and the swift confirmation of a new commissioner will ensure the Agency's activities are not impaired. Industry has long been a working partner in helping FDA achieve its mission of protecting human health. From food to cosmetics, the Agency has advanced consumer trust in our ingredients and brands, allowing the largest U.S. manufacturing sector to innovate and grow.

For the last several years, FDA has worked closely with the food supply value chain to reform, modernize and strengthen our complex food safety system through the Food Safety Modernization Act. In addition, the food and beverage industry has been working with federal regulators to vastly improve consumer transparency for product ingredients. Completing this work and identifying ways to improve existing laws and regulations cannot proceed without strong leadership at the top of FDA.

We are encouraged by President Trump's nomination of Dr. Gottlieb as he brings a high level of knowledge and experience to the job. FDA serves many stakeholders important to the U.S. economy and we look forward to working with new Administration leadership to enhance consumer confidence in the safety and security of the products we depend upon for our families every day.

Sincerely,

American Bakers Association

American Beverage Association
American Frozen Food Institute
Calorie Control Council
Can Manufacturers Institute
Corn Refiners Association
Food Marketing Institute
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Healthcare Nutrition Council
Independent Bakers Association
Infant Nutrition Council of America
International Bottled Water Association
International Dairy Foods Association
International Food Additives Council
National Automatic Merchandising Association
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Confectioners Association
National Grocers Association
North American Millers Association
National Pasta Association
National Restaurant Association
Produce Marketing Association
SNAC International
The Sugar Association
United Fresh Produce Association