Members of Congress on *Nutrition Keys* Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labeling Initiative

"I applaud the food and beverage industry for announcing this new food labeling system. Providing front-of-package nutritional information will allow consumers to make informed decisions about the foods they buy for their families, therefore making it easier to eat healthy. This is an important step towards meeting First Lady Michelle Obama's goal of curbing childhood obesity within a generation, and it deserves to be supported."

- Rep. John Dingell (D-MI-15)

"I believe that the best way to combat childhood obesity is to arm parents with the proper nutritional information. It is great that the food industry is leading the effort to provide this information to them in an easy to see, convenient manner. This simple, new front-of-package labeling system is a perfect example of stakeholders voluntarily self regulating for the good of consumers. The food industry is diminishing the need for government intervention by taking the reins and empowering families to make proper dietary decisions on their own."

- Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX-6)

"Consumers deserve to know what is in their food and how it can fit into a balanced and healthy diet. I applaud the food and beverage industry's voluntary commitment to update their labels and provide easy-to-read uniform nutrition information on the front of packages. By providing information on key nutrients in a more clear and straightforward way, we will empower families to build healthy diets. This move puts families, rather than the government, on the frontlines in combating obesity."

- Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI-6)

"It is going to take all stakeholders working together with a constructive and proactive approach to address the childhood obesity epidemic. The food and beverage industry's simple new front-of-package labeling system represents an important step forward in providing Americans with the information they need to make the healthy choice the easy choice."

- Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI-3)

"Easy access to information helps consumers make better decisions. Perhaps nowhere is this more important than when it comes to making healthy diet choices. I applaud the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the Food Marketing institute for the steps they've taken to better inform consumers about their products' nutritional facts. Industry-led improvements and self-regulation are commendable as they diminish the need for government intervention in our lives and choices."

- Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL-19)

"My mother was fond of telling us that if we knew better, she believed that we would do better. To have knowledge is to have power; therefore, I commend the food and beverage industry for its new labeling program which will help consumers to make more informed decisions about the foods and beverages they purchase for themselves and their families."

- Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-IL-7th)

"Today I applaud the food and beverage industry effort to play a constructive and responsible role in the fight against obesity by voluntarily committing to change their labels to provide uniform nutrition information on the front of packages. By providing information on key nutrients in a more clear and straightforward way, we will empower consumers to build healthy diets."

– Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA-18)

“Today the food and beverage industry answered First Lady Michelle Obama's call for innovative industry initiatives to help address America’s childhood obesity epidemic. The industry’s new front-of-package labeling system, which will make key nutrient information even more clear and consumer-friendly, is exactly the kind of vital information parents need to make good choices for their families. There are real disparities between the rates of obesity in low-income communities and communities of color and the rest of the country. We applaud the industry for voluntarily stepping forward to help reduce these disparities through their new front-of-pack labeling system and their commitment to educate consumers.”

- Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Emmanuel Cleaver (D-MO-5)

"Our kids need all adults, whether we work in the public or private industry, to help them make healthy choices. After all, eradicating child obesity in ONE generation cannot be accomplished by the government alone. I am really proud the food and beverage industry understands this truth. It is empowering families to make well-informed choices through new, easy to use, fact-based, front-of-package labeling system. When a parent reads a product label, they will now immediately understand its caloric value. This represents an important step in providing Americans with the necessary information to make healthier choices in leading healthier lives.”

– Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH-11)

“As a physician, I know that solving the overweight and obesity epidemic requires far more than anything government can do alone and today’s announcement by the food and beverage industry of its new, easy to use, fact-based, front-of- package labeling system represents an important step forward to providing Americans with the information they need to make healthier choices about the foods that they eat. In addition, the industry’s new front-of-package labeling system that will make key nutrient information even more clear and consumer-friendly is exactly the kind of vital information parents need to make good choices for their kids.”

– Rep. Donna Christensen (D-VI)