

April 19, 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Chair
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable John Hoeven
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
United States Senate

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Andy Harris
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Sanford Bishop Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
United States House of Representatives

Dear Chairs Murray, Heinrich, Granger, and Harris, and Ranking Members Collins, Hoeven, DeLauro, and Bishop,

The undersigned groups, representing members of the food industry and consumer, environmental, and public health interests, write urging you to provide an increase of \$30 million for food chemical re-assessment.

Our groups are united in a shared belief that the American food system would benefit from strong federal oversight of food chemical safety, and we wish to see the FDA working proactively to apply the latest scientific knowledge to make effective regulatory

full, the funding would be insufficient to ensure a rigorous and timely review of the chemical and toxicological issues now pending before the agency. The FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods, Jim Jones, speaking at a recent webinar hosted by the Alliance for a Stronger FDA, estimated that it will cost the FDA between \$1-4 million per reassessment for chemicals that are currently in the food supply and prioritized for review. We therefore believe that an investment of \$30 million will lead to substantial progress in the FDA completing its review of the 21 chemicals currently prioritized for reassessment and taking on additional reassessment activities based on emerging science.

The agency has repeatedly sought increased funding to hire new staff to address emerging chemical and toxicological issues, requesting \$19.7 million from Congress in FY 2022 and FY 2023, and \$5 million in FY 2024. Unfortunately, Congress did not grant these prior requests, and the FDA's foods program budget has remained largely flat over the past three years, accounting

Corn Refiners Association
Council for Responsible Nutrition
Danone North America
Environmental Working Group
Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association
Independent Bakers Association
International Association of Color Manufacturers
International Dairy Foods Association
International Food Additives Council
Mamavation
Mars, Inc.
Mondelez International
National Center for Health Research
National Confectioners Association
National Environmental Health Association
Nestle, USA
Sustainable Food Policy Alliance
Unilever United States