

April 13, 2023
Division of Dockets Management
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Comment on Citizen Petition for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to adopt a mandatory, nutrient-specific, interpretive front-of-package nutrition labeling system for all packaged foods sold in the United States (FDA-2022-P-1832)

The undersigned organizations support this petition calling on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue regulations establishing a mandatory front-of-package nutrition labeling system for foods sold in the United States. We concur that this system must be mandatory and nutrient-specific, include calories, and call attention to high levels of added sugars, sodium, and saturated fat. These nutrients are over-consumed by Americans and contribute to chronic disease.

An [expansive body of scientific evidence](#) supports the adoption of a front-of-package labeling system that meets these criteria in order to improve the nutritional quality of consumers' food choices, promote understanding of the nutritional contents of foods, and prompt food manufacturers to make [healthy reformulations](#) of packaged foods.

We are dismayed that the United States has become one of the nations with the greatest need for, but scantest action on, such public health nutrition interventions. The average American adult consumes [50% more sodium](#), [40% more added sugars](#), and [40% more saturated fat](#) than recommended daily. Meanwhile, approximately [122 million U.S. adults](#) (47% adults) have hypertension, [39 million Americans](#) (14% adults) have diabetes (and approximately 90-95% of these cases are Type 2 diabetes), and [20 million U.S. adults](#) (7% of adults) have coronary artery disease. Each of these conditions is strongly linked to excess intake of added sugar, salt, or saturated fat.

The time has come for FDA to take bold action to improve our nation's diet and health. Please prioritize this evidence-based policy and develop a mandatory front-of-package labeling system for the United States.

Sincerely,

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
American Institute for Cancer Research
American Public Health Association
B.Komplete
Balanced
Community Food Advocates
Consumer Federation of America
Consumer Reports

Healthy Food America

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility

Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education &
Policy, Teachers College, Columbia University

National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

National Association of Pediatric Nurse
Practitioners

National Center for Health Research

National WIC Association

Society of Behavioral Medicine