



The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
Congresswoman  
2162 Rayburn House Office  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dan Newhouse  
Congressman  
504 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Pingree and Newhouse:

On behalf of Hellmann's, we greatly appreciate your leadership introducing the Food Date Labeling Act. We are committed to helping reduce the 54 million tons of food that go to waste every year in the United States. This bipartisan, bicameral solution will help to do just that while eliminating the patchwork of state laws that confuse consumers, increase food waste, and reduce the availability of safe foods for donation to food insecure Americans.

Hellmann's is committed to inspiring more than 100 million people around the world to waste less food each year through consumer education, policy advocacy, and strategic philanthropy. This effort is part of a larger commitment to help achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal of reducing food waste by 50% by 2030. As food manufacturers, we believe this bill is an important and simple step to address food waste and eliminate consumer confusion in America.

The Food Date Labeling Act is a commonsense bill that will establish a dual label system reducing the available labeling language to two phrases: one quality date indicator and one safety date indicator. The bill also addresses the patchwork of regulations across the country by eliminating state laws that bar the sale or donation of food past the quality date. The Food Date Labeling Act also provides resources for educating consumers about the meaning of new labels so that they can make better economic and safety decisions.

According to ReFed, the leading national food waste nonprofit, the upside to making these small standardization changes add up. We can avoid 582,000 tons of food waste every year – the equivalent of nearly two times the weight of the Empire State Building – with simple changes to our food date labeling. Americans can save \$2.41 billion annually if we address this issue successfully, with nearly \$2 billion of those savings going back to consumers who can avoid wasting food unnecessarily. These small changes can also have large climate impacts with a potential to reduce emissions by 2.73 million metric tons and save 162 billion gallons of water.

Hellmann's is excited and inspired to see Congress address this important issue through the Food Date Labeling Act. We look forward to working closely with you and your colleagues to advance this meaningful legislation that will benefit consumers and businesses in a significant way.

Sincerely,



Herrish Patel  
EVP, Foods & Refreshment  
Unilever North America