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July 20, 2015

To the Texas Delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives:

Texas Farm Bureau supports H.R. 1599, the Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2015.

Passage of this legislation is critical. U.S. consumers enjoy a diversity of affordable foods unlike any other society in the world. This array of affordable choices comes from the variety of options our farmers and ranchers have in how they grow our food—options rooted in sound science and practical economics and options that some with fear-filled agendas seek to limit.

Those who want to take tools and technologies away from American farmers and ranchers would rob affordable choices from consumers. The method they are relying upon is a patchwork of state labeling laws that seek to confuse consumers and create fear about the food they eat and feed their children. That strategy deliberately ignores science and undermines the public's understanding of the numerous benefits of biotechnology in feeding a hungry world at a price it can afford.

This bill charges the U.S. Department of Agriculture with certifying genetically engineered food. It further ensures genetically engineered plants will never be introduced into interstate commerce without being certified as safe by the Food and Drug Administration. Certification by these trusted agencies, rather than a network of conflicting state laws, will help prevent consumer confusion. It will further advance the cause of food safety and increase consistency in our food labels and confidence in our food supply.

We urge you to vote for H.R. 1599.

Sincerely,


Russell W. Boening
President

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