



***** FLOOR ALERT *****

May 5, 2023

TO: Members, California State Assembly

RE: AB 418 (Gabriel) Bans Food Additives (OPPOSE)

On behalf of the organizations above that represent manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of food and beverages, we write to **OPPOSE** AB 418 (Gabriel) and urge your **NO** vote. AB 418 would **ban the manufacturing and sales of food containing five specific food additives**.

- Food safety is a paramount concern to us and our members; however, this measure usurps the comprehensive food safety and approval system for these five additives and predetermines ongoing evaluations.
- There are three regulatory reviews of the ingredients in this bill currently open for comments (two at FDA, one at CDPH, one initiated as recently as May 2nd). The regulatory processes require strict scientific review by professional scientists that this bill would supersede. The food safety process is active and should be allowed to continue the appropriate review of these additives.
- California has several laws that require removing chemicals from foods, attaching warning labels, and checking alternatives if those food additives are unsafe (Prop 65, Green Chemistry, Dept. of Public Health Petition Process). All five of these additives have been thoroughly reviewed by the federal and state systems and many international scientific bodies and continue to be deemed safe.
- This coalition supports initiatives to promote food safety and actively engages in the regulatory processes to ensure a safe and wholesome food supply. We encourage the Legislature to allow that system to do this critical work. Therefore, this coalition respectfully **OPPOSES** AB 418 and urges your **NO** vote on the floor.