

SB-81

This act obligates food manufacturers to be clearer of the dangers and threats ingredients and additives may pose in their food products.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Bigalk of Minnesota introduced the following bill;

A BILL

This act obligates food manufacturers to be clearer of the dangers and threats ingredients and additives may pose in their food products.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Food Labeling Transparency Act".

SECTION 2. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

All food products manufactured or sold within the U.S. shall have warnings for ingredients. The warnings of harmful or potentially harmful substances (those in which that do not meet GRAS standards) shall be added to the already required "Nutrition Facts" label; under the the "Serving Size" portion as an additional header, if none: "N/a" will suffice.

Ingredients that the FDA have proven or believed to lead to health issues. (Dyes, artificial ingredients, natural ingredients, and additives. - if non-GRAS)

SECTION 3. INFORMATION AND EXAMPLES

Generally recognized as safe (GRAS) is an FDA term for foods that are generally considered to be safe by experts. Many food manufacturers say their additives and ingredients are GRAS - even when they may not be, which they continue through the FDA unless an investigation is prompted, which is rare. However, many companies don't care to report anything to the FDA. If caught, the process of justice is a warning letter, then an import alert, then a mandated recall, then possibly legal action.

The FDA lacks enforcement and manpower to investigate every case and complaint, in which not all violations are even reported.

For example, Red Dye No. 3 - linked to causing cancer to hyperactivity in children - was banned in 1990 by the FDA, yet it is still in many food products.

I.e. Red dye 40 (maraschino cherries, medicines like Advil or Tylenol), Yellow dye No. 5, Yellow dye No. 6 have been found to be contaminated with carcinogens- specifically benzidine, which has been linked with increased risk of bladder cancer

Natural alternatives- beet juice, beta-carotene, blueberry juice, cherries, cranberries, strawberries, etc.

For example, the act would obligate a maraschino cherry manufacturer to put a label on the product describing it contains Red dye 40 and the possible risks of consuming Red dye 40.

SECTION 4. FUNDING AND ENFORCEMENT

The FDA nor the U.S. government are fiscally nor financially responsible for companies to remain in compliance for adding the labels.

The FDA shall regulate and enforce the added requirements of food product labeling.

Violation

The first warning shall be a letter from the FDA obligating the manufacturer to be in compliance, 30 days.

Second warning is the same, 30 days.

Third warning is a \$300,000 fine, 15 days.

Fourth warning is an additional \$500,000 fine, mandated recall of all pertaining products, and mandated criminal prosecution.

SECTION 5. ENACTMENT

The bill would go into effect one year upon approval from both chambers and signing from the President.