

Consumer Federation of America

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STATEMENT OF CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA'S CAROL L. TUCKER-FOREMAN¹ ON THE NEW CALIFORNIA SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

"Consumer Federation of America applauds Senators Steinberg and Florez. They have sent a clear message that the California Senate will, henceforth, open its doors and minds to the concerns of those who eat food as well as those who produce it.

"Names are important. Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, who served on the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee said, 'in real life, unlike in Shakespeare, the sweetness of the rose does depend upon the name it bears.'

"This name change is a sweet victory for California consumers. However, now California voters must follow up by persuading Senators who share this more comprehensive view of food and agriculture policy to join the new committee and persuade them to give the same intense attention to creating policies that protect food safety, provide good nutrition, work for improved food assistance and sensitive animal welfare policies that representatives of production agriculture have always invested in shaping state policies."

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Carol L. Tucker-Foreman, Distinguished Fellow at CFA's Food Policy Institute, has worked for 35 years to improve federal food safety, nutrition, food assistance and food economics policies and to protect the interests of U.S. consumers. From 1977-81 she was assistant secretary for food and consumer services at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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¹ Consumer Federation of America, founded in 1968, is a non-profit association of over 300 organizations, representing a combined membership of over 50 million Americans. CFA seeks to advance the interests of American consumers through research, education and advocacy. Member organizations include local, state and national consumer advocacy groups, senior citizen associations, consumer cooperatives, trade unions, and anti-hunger and food safety organizations.