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- Some Commonsense Advice on Ultra-Processed Food
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- 139 Stakeholders Urge Congress to Protect the Consumer Product Safety Commission



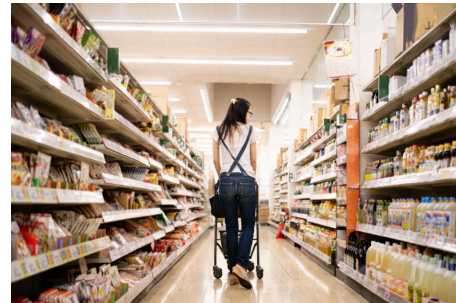
Consumer Assembly is coming up! Join us on June 3 & 4 in Washington, DC for panel discussions, fireside chats, keynote addresses, and networking opportunities, covering an array of issues affecting affordability for consumers at CFA's cornerstone conference.

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### **Senate Crypto Bill – Not Just Bad for Crypto Investors**

Congress is advancing the CLARITY Act, a bipartisan crypto bill that CFA warns could weaken long-standing investor and consumer protections far beyond the crypto market itself. The legislation would put retirement savings at risk,



### **Some Commonsense Advice on Ultra-Processed Food**

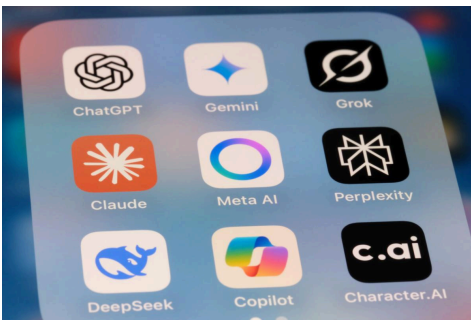
A new report by Healthy Eating Research sets out to define ultra-processed foods (UPFs) and offer evidence-based recommendations to reduce their health harms. CFA's Director of Food Policy, Thomas Gremillion, served on

override stronger state regulations, and allow crypto companies to offer bank-like products without the same safeguards or deposit insurance. The bill could also enable risky financial practices linked to the 2008 financial crisis and make it harder to combat crypto-related fraud and scams. Consumer advocates are urging Americans to contact their Senators and oppose the legislation.

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the expert panel for this report. Extensive research links high UPF consumption to serious health risks, while the food industry claims that the category is too vague or arbitrary to regulate. The report outlines practical policies, including front-of-pack labeling, soda taxes, and targeted school meal standards, while recognizing the challenges posed by the widespread presence of UPFs in the U.S. food supply.

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## CFA Applauds Pennsylvania for Enforcing Their Unlawful Practice of Medicine Laws Against Character.AI

The Pennsylvania Department of State filed a lawsuit against Character.AI, alleging that one of its chatbots falsely claimed to be a licensed psychiatrist and used a fake license number. The Consumer Federation of America praised the lawsuit, calling it an important step in holding AI companies accountable for deceptive and



## 139 Stakeholders Urge Congress to Protect the Consumer Product Safety Commission

The Consumer Federation of America joined with the National Consumers League, Consumer Reports, and 136 other stakeholders and groups in sending a letter to congressional leaders calling on Congress to preserve an independent, bipartisan Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and ensure the agency has the appropriate tools, resources,

potentially dangerous practices. The case follows a broader complaint filed last year by CFA and a coalition of advocacy organizations, which accused Character.AI and Meta's AI Studio of enabling chatbots to impersonate mental health professionals and engage in unlicensed medical practice. Earlier this year, CFA and the U.S. PIRG Education Fund also released a report warning that therapy-style chatbots can threaten users' well-being and privacy.

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and personnel to carry out its lifesaving mission. The FY 2027 Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) budget and FY 2027 CPSC budget recommend that CPSC's functions be transferred to HHS. The CPSC budget also requests \$135 million in funding (a 10 percent funding cut compared to FY 2025 levels) and 459 employees (a 14 percent reduction of staff compared to FY 2025 levels). The letter states the groups' strong opposition to any attempt to dramatically restructure the CPSC, reduce the agency's workforce, and decrease funding for consumer product safety.

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*CFA News Update is a publication of the Consumer Federation of America*

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