COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 August 2, 2018

The Honorable Scott Gottlieb Commissioner U.S. Food and Drug Administration 10903 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20993

Dear Commissioner Gottlieb:

We write to request that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) thoroughly review the evidence presented in support of the pending petition for a qualified health claim on labels of eligible cranberry products submitted by cranberry industry stakeholders. The requested health claim would support the relationship between daily consumption of certain cranberry products and a reduced risk of recurrent urinary tract infection (UTI) in healthy women.

We appreciate FDA's efforts to provide accurate and up-to-date health and nutrition information for consumers. In the past, the cranberry industry has also worked to inform consumers of the nutritional benefits of nutritionally dense cranberries to help support a healthy lifestyle. Receiving FDA approval to display any scientifically supported inherent health-promoting properties of cranberries would be valuable in ensuring that individuals have access to more comprehensive information about the health impacts of their diets and about reducing the risk of certain conditions.

Access to the latest evidence-based information on health and nutrition is an important part of health care. As the growing epidemic of chronic disease is one of the most dangerous public health concerns our country faces, we believe that providing consumers with information to better understand the nutritional value of food they consume is essential to improving health outcomes. As such, we urge the FDA to fully and fairly consider the scientific evidence submitted as part of the qualified health claim petition and expediently issue a decision on the petition.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Tom MacArthur U.S. Representative

William R. Keating U.S. Representative