PRESS RELEASE

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Chairman Conaway Statement on Senate's Biotechnology Labeling Bill

Today, House Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway (R-TX) issued the following statement in response to the Senate's recently passed legislation requiring products of biotechnology to be labeled.

"After spending the past week and a half studying the legislation and meeting with agricultural producers, along with a variety of other stakeholders, I have come to the conclusion that the Senate bill is riddled with ambiguity and affords the Secretary a concerning level of discretion. I have sought written assurances from USDA on the more problematic provisions, and I appreciate the efforts of the Department to provide some level of clarity. While I will never fully support federally mandating the disclosure of information that has absolutely nothing to do with nutrition, health, or safety, it is my expectation that this legislation will be considered on the House floor next week, and it is my intention to support this bill."