



**Statement of Principles and Policy Support
For Strong, Federal Oversight of Produce Safety
May 5, 2007**

At its Board of Directors meeting January 20, 2007, United Fresh Produce Association adopted a statement of principles and policy support for federal oversight of clear and strong produce safety standards based on the best available science.

At the Board's meeting on May 5, 2007, this policy position was reviewed and again endorsed, with the adoption of the following resolution supporting these guiding principles for a food safety regulatory framework for produce:

*To protect public health and ensure consumer confidence,
produce safety standards:*

- *Must allow for a commodity-specific approach, based on the best available science.*
- *Must be consistent and applicable to the identified commodity or commodity sector, no matter where grown or packaged in the United States, or imported into the country.*
- *Must be federally mandated with sufficient federal oversight of compliance in order to be most credible to consumers.*

United Fresh is committed to working with its members, allied produce industry associations, customer associations in the retail and foodservice industries, the Food and Drug Administration, USDA, members of Congress and other stakeholders to develop and implement federal food safety policies that are consistent with these principles.

United Fresh will also continue its scientific and technical work to develop rigorous metrics for commodity specific good agricultural practices, support industry measures to adopt these best practices in advance of regulation and educate members on their application, and advocate for significantly increased food safety research to reduce and eliminate potential pathogens on foods.

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