Bi-Partisan Congressional Panel Will Address Produce Industry Leaders at United Fresh Washington Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 17, 2015) – Representatives Tim Ryan (D-OH) and David Valadao (R-CA) will address more than 500 produce industry professionals on Congress’s efforts tackling child nutrition and much-needed drought relief assistance on Tuesday, September 29, during the General Session Luncheon at the 2015 United Fresh Washington Conference.

“With constituents spanning all facets of the vast produce industry, Representatives Ryan and Valadao understand the importance of the industry to the nation’s economy and appreciate the unique business challenges we faces to provide Americans with an abundant, nutritious and safe supply of fruits and vegetables. From increasing produce consumption to addressing critical environmental and regulatory challenges, these important policy issues affect consumers and industry members across the country,” said Robert Guenther, United Fresh’s Senior Vice President, Public Policy. “We are honored that they will both be joining us to discuss these critical issues and what Congress is doing to help shape a better business environment.”

Rep. Ryan introduced the Salad Bar in Schools Expansion Act this June, which establishes grant funding to provide training, technical assistance and placement of salad bars in elementary, middle and high schools across the country; ensures the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proactive in promoting school salad bars; and allows schools flexibility to use federal funding for cafeteria equipment to purchase salad bars. In July, Rep. Valadao introduced the Western Water and American Food Security Act to provide relief to thousands of farmers, growers and business owners negatively impacted by the historic drought in California and other parts of the western U.S.

This year, Washington Conference attendees will take part in strategic, face-to-face dialogue with key members of Congress, their staff and top regulatory officials. The event includes education sessions on today’s issues facing the industry and various networking activities with industry peers. In addition to the presentation from Rep. Ryan and Rep. Valadao, attendees will hear from General Michael Hayden, former Director of both the CIA and NSA; a panel of School Foodservice Directors diving into the details of school lunch requirements; Rep. Rodney Davis and political personality Tucker Carlson. To register, visit http://www.unitedfresh.org/events-programs/annual-washington-conference/

For more information about The Washington Conference, September 28-30, contact Angela Tiwari at atiwari@unitedfresh.org or call 202-303-3416.

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About the United Fresh Produce Association
Founded in 1904, the United Fresh Produce Association brings together companies across every segment of the fresh produce supply chain, including growers, shippers, fresh cut processors, wholesalers, distributors, retailers, foodservice operators, industry suppliers and allied associations. We empower industry leaders to shape sound government policy. We deliver the resources and expertise companies need to succeed in managing complex business and technical issues. We provide the training and development individuals need to advance their careers in produce. Through these endeavors, we unite our industry with a common purpose – to build long-term value for our members and grow produce consumption. For more information, visit www.unitedfresh.org