



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 301

Resolution urging fast food restaurants to limit the amount of trans fat in their food products, and calling upon the federal government to implement restrictions on trans fat content in food served by fast food restaurants.

By Council Members Vallone Jr., Gennaro, James, Recchia Jr., Sanders Jr., and Foster

Whereas, According to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, over 12.5 million Americans suffer from coronary heart disease (CHD), and more than 500,000 die each year, making CHD one of the leading causes of death in the United States today; and

Whereas, Since January 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires that trans fat levels be listed on food packaging labels; and

Whereas, According to the FDA, trans fat, like saturated fat and dietary cholesterol, raises the low-density lipoprotein (LDL or "bad") cholesterol levels that increase the risk of CHD; and

Whereas, An article published by Agence France Presse on April 14, 2006, notes that research indicates that eating just 5 grams of trans fat per day increases the risk of CHD by 25%; and

Whereas, According to a letter written by Steen Stender, MD, a cardiologist in Denmark and the former head of the Danish Nutrition Council, and colleagues, and published in the New England Journal of Medicine issue released April 13, 2006, the results of a recent internationally-conducted study indicate that the amount of trans fat found in fast food restaurant products is significantly higher in the United States than in many other countries; and

Whereas, The letter notes that fast food restaurants could address this problem by changing the industrial grade cooking oil they use to prepare their food; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York urges fast food restaurants to limit the amount of

trans fat in their food products, and calls upon the federal government to implement restrictions on trans fat content in food served by fast food restaurants.

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