



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **EXPERT SCIENCE PANEL BOLSTERS CALL FOR IMPROVED FEDERAL FOOD-SAFETY OVERSIGHT AUTHORITIES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Make Our Food Safe coalition today issued the following statement regarding the new Institute of Medicine and National Research Council report, *Enhancing Food Safety: The Role of the Food and Drug Administration*:

“The Make Our Food Safe coalition is very pleased that its call for new statutory authorities regarding food safety is supported by recommendations from the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) desperately needs a specific mandate to prevent foodborne illness rather than continuing to act only after people become sick or die. The agency needs new authorities if it is to ensure the safety of food as it is produced, processed, sold and consumed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The U.S. House of Representatives has acted. It is now up to the U.S. Senate to bring the bipartisan FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (S. 510) to the floor for a vote.”

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Major public health, consumer and food safety groups have launched the Make Our Food Safe coalition ([www.makeourfoodsafesafe.org](http://www.makeourfoodsafesafe.org)), including the American Public Health Association, Center for Foodborne Illness Research & Prevention, Center for Science in the Public Interest, the Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, Food & Water Watch, the National Consumers League, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Safe Tables Our Priority, and Trust for America’s Health.