



## 2014 NFWL Annual Conference

### **Resolution: Modernizing the Food Safety System and Protecting the Public's Health**

**WHEREAS**, foodborne illness is a common, costly—yet preventable—public health problem; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, 1 in 6 Americans gets sick by consuming contaminated foods or beverages; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, infections from deadly pathogens like *Salmonella*, *E. coli* and *Listeria* lead to an estimated 48 million illnesses and 3,000 deaths in the U.S. – with an annual cost of \$70 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, Congress enacted the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) to protect the public's health, modernizing the U.S. food safety system for the first time in 70 years and requiring the implementation of science-based standards to help growers and producers prevent foodborne illness at every point along the food supply chain; and

**WHEREAS**, in prior years, Congress has wisely invested in efforts to implement FSMA and modernize the U.S. food safety system; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Food and Drug Administration needs at least 50 million additional funding to retain and hire more scientific experts; increase the number of food safety inspections to meet the targets mandated in FSMA, and provide adequate training on the rules to all current and future inspectors; modernize its information technology infrastructure; and bolster its laboratory capability; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, members of the National Foundation of Women Legislative (NFWL) recognize the vital importance of modernizing the U.S. food safety system and protecting the public's health; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NFWL urges Congress to provide sufficient funding to support the implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

The Power to Make a Difference

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