May 16, 2007

Federal Trade Commission Office of the Secretary Room H-135 (Annex J) 600. Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20580

Office of Management and Budget

Re: Food Industry Marketing to Children Report: Paperwork Comment; FTC File No. P064504

Dear FTC Commissioners:

I am writing to support and encourage the Federal Trade Commission to move forward with its request for information from 44 major food and beverage companies and quick service restaurants about their marketing practices and expenditures directed to children and adolescents.

The Institute of Medicine's (IOM's) extensive study, *Food Marketing to Children and Adolescents: Threat or Opportunity*?, found that marketing of foods and beverages has an impact on children's food preferences, requests and consumption habits. While these conclusions are strong, there is still much we don't know about how companies are targeting children and adolescents with food and beverage marketing. Because of the impact food marketing has on children's health we need to know the full nature and extent of the means and mechanisms being used to target our children.

I, the undersigned, am a member of Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL), a county coalition. We are working to improve children's food and physical activity environments to improve their health now and in the future. We are very concerned about the marketing and advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages to children and adolescents and encourage you to pursue your investigation.

Thank you for taking this action.

Kelly Kerbow Jefferson County Commission on Children and Families & HEAL member