

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DELAURO CALLS FOR BETTER INSPECTION OF IMPORTED FOOD  
PRODUCTS**

*Responds to findings of banned fungicide in orange juice*

*New Haven, CT*— Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (CT-3), Ranking Member on the Labor, Health, and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, released the following statement today in response to the FDA’s announcement that it will increase testing for a fungicide found in orange juice.

The FDA’s actions are in response to an unnamed juice company informing the FDA last month that it had found low levels of the fungicide carbendazim in their products and in other company’s products. Carbendazim, which is used to control the growth of fungi in agricultural products, is not approved for use in the United States. However, it is approved for use in Brazil, where more than half of the United States’ imported orange juice comes from.

The FDA has said the level of carbendazim reported last month does pose not a threat to the public, but should the level rise and present a public health risk, it will act to remove the products from the market.

“Maintaining the safety of our food supply is a paramount concern, especially when the food is imported from countries with different standards of safety. I am very pleased that the FDA has moved to better inspect the foods being imported into our country, but it is clear that we must do more,” said Congresswoman DeLauro. “The FDA must hold all of the food entering the U.S. accountable to our high standards of food safety. To do this, we must fully fund the FDA and ensure it has the tools and resources it needs to fulfill their responsibility of protecting the American public.”

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[DeLauro.House.Gov](http://DeLauro.House.Gov)

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