

California Agriculture
Statement of Critical Issues

1. Proposition 65 has recognized that food must be treated differently from other consumer products subject to the law. Produce and fresh cut products must be treated differently than processed and packaged food items. As we learned with acrylamide, the issue of naturally occurring elements creates unique circumstances that require a unique approach.

2. A warning method that does not involve on-product or on shelf warning is important for this issue. Government entities around the world encourage the consumption of 5 servings of fresh fruits and vegetables a day as a means to a healthy lifestyle. Any Prop 65 notice applying to fresh produce and fresh cut products should also provide information about the benefits of consuming these products thereby allowing the consumer to weigh the risk/benefit of the product. An on-product notice does not allow for this balanced approach.