

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The petition of certain citizens of Australia draw to the attention of the House:

- A 2007 study by the University of Southampton described by the EU Food Standards Agency as being 'a scientific study of the highest quality' found that six food colourings; Tartrazine (102), Quinolone Yellow (104), Sunset Yellow FCF (110), Azorubine (122), Ponceau 4R (124) and Allura Red AC (129), commonly used in Australian products marketed to children (inc. lollies, soft drinks, ice cream, jelly, juices, cordials, biscuits, muffins, cakes, flavoured milk) can cause hyperactivity and behavioural problems in children.
- The Southampton results suggest that in ADHD susceptible children removing these colourings had 1/3 the effect of a therapeutic course of Ritalin. Various of these colourings have also been linked to cancer, skin rashes, asthma, migraines, chromosome damage, kidney tumours, thyroid problems and upset stomachs.
- As a result in 1988 the EU FSA recommended these six food colours be phased out of all foods, and since 2010 any product using these additives must carry the warning label: **Warning: contains food additives which may cause hyperactivity or attention problems in children.**

We therefore ask the House to:

Call on the Australian food regulator, FSANZ, to do the right thing by Australian children and follow the EU's lead by introducing mandatory warning labels for any product which continues to use these six food colours (102, 104, 110, 122, 124, 129).