



## **Darden Restaurants Applauds Senate's Compromise Language on Uniform Nutrition Disclosure**

ORLANDO, Fla., June 10, 2009 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Darden Restaurants Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Clarence Otis issued the following statement today regarding an agreement reached by the restaurant industry and federal lawmakers that would create a uniform, national standard for nutrition disclosure in restaurants. Senators Carper and Harkin announced the compromise at a press conference today at 3 p.m. in Washington, D.C.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20050203/FLTH026LOGO> )

"We applaud Senators Carper, Murkowski, Harkin and Kennedy for their work in bringing us an important step closer to a uniform national standard for nutrition disclosure. We support this agreement because it's consistent with Darden's commitment to providing guests with information they need to make informed decisions. Nutrition information for all of our core menu items is available on our Web sites and in our restaurants -- evidence of our ongoing commitment to informed consumer choice.

"We are pleased that industry, government and the public health community were able to come together and partner to reach a workable solution to this important issue. As a member of the executive committee of the Coalition for Responsible Nutrition Information, we look forward to working with all parties to pass this significant piece of legislation."

### About Darden Restaurants

Darden Restaurants, Inc., (NYSE: DRI), the world's largest full-service restaurant company, owns and operates more than 1,700 restaurants that generate \$7 billion in annual sales. Headquartered in Orlando, and employing 180,000 people, Darden is recognized for a culture that rewards caring for and responding to people. Our restaurant brands -- Red Lobster, Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, The Capital Grille, Bahama Breeze and Seasons 52 -- reflect the rich diversity of those who dine with us. Our brands are built on deep insights into what our guests want. For more information, please visit [www.darden.com](http://www.darden.com).

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