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March 7, 2023

Mr. Alan Jope
CEO
Unilever
800 Sylvan Ave.
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632

Dear Mr. Jope:

I write with urgent concerns about reports that milk used in Ben & Jerry's products is processed using child labor. Recent media reports have detailed that migrant children across the country are working brutal jobs, allegedly in violation of child labor laws.¹ Accounts of what these children are enduring are horrifying. This requires immediate action by the corporations responsible.

As a Vermonter, I know that these reports are not consistent with Ben & Jerry's values. In 2017, Ben & Jerry's became the first company to implement the Milk with Dignity Program, which has its roots in Vermont and seeks to ensure strong labor standards for farmers and farmworkers in the dairy supply chain. This historic agreement between Ben & Jerry's and Migrant Justice protects about 250 workers in Vermont and New York, ensuring higher wages, paid time off, and safe working conditions.²

Unilever has a responsibility to its customers to ensure its supply chain does not rely on children working dangerous, exploitative and illegal jobs. I urge you to act quickly to ensure that all your supply chains are free of child labor, and of all exploitative labor practices. Please respond to the following questions in writing by March 21, 2023:

1. When did your suppliers begin using migrant child labor?
2. When did you become aware that your suppliers were using migrant child labor?
3. What steps are you taking to end your relationships with suppliers that rely on migrant child labor?
4. What will you do in your capacity as CEO to end the practice of using migrant child labor in your industry and others?

Sincerely,



Becca Balint
Member of Congress

¹The New York Times, "Alone and Exploited, Migrant Children Work Brutal Jobs Across the U.S." <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/25/us/unaccompanied-migrant-child-workers-exploitation.html>

² Migrant Justice, "About the Milk with Dignity Program" <https://migrantjustice.net/about-the-milk-with-dignity-program>