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Donna V. Porter, Ph.D., R.D. was a specialist in nutrition and food policy at the Congressional Research Service (CRS) in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. for 31 years. In that job she was responsible for answering requests and conducting research work for Members of Congress and staff on a variety of food and nutrition research issues. From September 1989 to May 1990 she was on detail to the Food and Nutrition Board at the National Academy of Sciences where she was project director for the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on the Nutrition Components of Food Labeling which issued the report *Nutrition Labeling: Issues and Directions for the 1990s*. Following passage of the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990, she was project director for IOM's Committee on State Food Labeling that issued the mandated report *Food Labeling: Toward National Uniformity*. She also was involved in efforts to implement food health claims regulations through the Keystone Dialogue on Food, Nutrition and Health, reform of dietary supplement regulations and spent considerable time examining the regulation of dietary supplements in industrialized countries. Dr. Porter received her B.S. in food and nutrition from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, completed a dietetic internship at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, worked as a dietitian at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York, and the Ohio State University Hospital in Columbus. She received her Ph.D. in human nutrition with a minor in political science from the Ohio State University, completed a fellowship at the National Nutrition Consortium in Washington, D.C. and was a Congressional Science Fellow assigned to the Congressional Research Service which evolved into her permanent job.