House Rules Committee Chairwoman Louise Slaughter issued the following statement in response to an alarming new study today from Center for Science in the Public Interest showing that many commonly used food dyes pose a significant cancer risk.

Rep. Slaughter has been a leader on this issue for many years, and as early as 2003 wrote to the Food and Drug Administration urging them to ban Yellow Dye 5 and 6.

“Unfortunately this is not much of a surprise and should not be news to anyone who has paid attention to the warnings that have been sounded over the last decade,” Slaughter said. “There is far too much uncertainty about artificial food dyes for food manufacturers to be adding them to foods that we consume every day. It’s especially troubling that so much of these dyes have been used in foods consumed by children.”

In April, Slaughter wrote to the FDA again about this issue , urging more attention.