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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Nutricia North America Applauds Gov. Blagojevich's Signature of Health Insurance Legislation**

**Rockville, Md.** – August 29, 2007 – Nutricia North America applauds Gov. Rod Blagojevich and the Illinois General Assembly on the passage of Senate Bill 935.

S.B. 935 amends the current state insurance code to require coverage and reimbursement of amino acid-based medical foods and formulas like Neocate® for the diagnosis and treatment of eosinophilic disorders or short bowel syndrome. These are critical digestive conditions affecting thousands of children. The legislation requires coverage for the medically necessary formulas whether people take them orally or through a feeding tube.

"Because children with eosinophilic disorders or short bowel syndrome are unable to digest most foods, they rely on amino acid-based formulas like Neocate to get the nutrition they need," says Steven Yannicelli, Ph.D., R.D., director of science and education for Nutricia North America. "We commend the Governor and Illinois General Assembly for enacting legislation to ensure that insurance plans are covering the cost of this medical necessity."

Nutricia North America manufactures Neocate Infant, Neocate One+, Neocate Junior and E028 Splash, amino acid-based products for the diagnosis and management of eosinophilic disorders, short bowel syndrome, milk allergy and multiple severe food allergies.

*Note to editors: Dr. Yannicelli is available to speak about the eosinophilic disorders, short bowel syndrome and using amino acid-based medical foods and formulas to manage these and related conditions. To schedule an interview, please contact Karrie Hawbaker at 202-296-2002 x113 or [ksh@ecius.net](mailto:ksh@ecius.net).*

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#### **About Nutricia North America**

Nutricia North America, based in Gaithersburg, Md., is a division of Numico. A leader in clinical nutrition, Nutricia North America provides medical foods and infant formulas for the treatment of allergic, gastrointestinal, metabolic, neurological and genetic disorders. The range of quality products includes Neocate, the first hypoallergenic amino acid-based formula for infants and children who suffer from dairy/soy protein allergy and gastrointestinal conditions such as eosinophilic esophagitis.