



HORMEL FOODS CORPORATION

AUSTIN, MINNESOTA

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To the Stockholders:

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Hormel Foods Corporation, a Delaware corporation, will be held in the Richard L. Knowlton Auditorium of the Austin High School, 300 NW 4th Street, Austin, Minnesota, on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at 8:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. The items of business are:

1. Elect a board of 12 directors for the ensuing year;
2. Ratify the appointment by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 28, 2018;
3. Advisory vote to approve Named Executive Officer compensation as disclosed in the Company's 2018 annual meeting proxy statement;
4. Approve the Hormel Foods Corporation 2018 Incentive Compensation Plan; and
5. Such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors has fixed December 1, 2017, at the close of business, as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian D. Johnson".

BRIAN D. JOHNSON
Vice President and
Corporate Secretary

December 20, 2017

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials
for the Stockholder Meeting to be Held on January 30, 2018**

**The Proxy Statement and Annual Report to Stockholders
are available at www.proxyvote.com**