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25 June 2000

Commissioner Jane Henney
Docket No. 00P-1211/CP1
FDA Dockets Management
Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852

Re: Foods containing genetically engineered components

We believe it is reasonable and appropriate to develop and sell foods that contain elements that have been genetically engineered. Restrictions on sales of appropriately-tested foods and the mandatory labelling of foods containing genetically-engineered components are inappropriate. Bills in Congress that are simplistic actions (such as (HR3377, S2080, HR3883) should not be approved.

In general, the modern application of biotechnology represents a continuation of the improvements made by generations of farmers as they have selected for more desirable traits in animals and plants. In particular, we must find ways that reduce dependence on fertilizers and pesticides while still meeting the needs of the hungry people around the world. However, like any important change in our environment, genetically engineered organisms should be subjected to appropriate scientific scrutiny to ensure that they meet reasonable standards for safety to the consumers, to agricultural workers, and to our environment.

Please help to ensure that the United States does not prevent the development of new approaches to the production of our food. Measures, such as those taken in Europe to the production and sale of genetically engineered materials, are not desirable.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

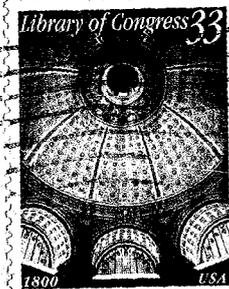


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