

June 6, 2000

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Dear commissioner Jane Henney
Docket No. 00P-1121/CPI
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD20852

I am writing you to express my concern about the genetically engineered foods that so widely populate the market, unmarked and not labeled, giving American consumers no choice or knowledge of what they buy.

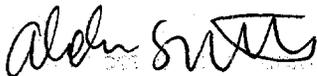
Genetically engineered foods are made from the process of isolating one gene from one species of plant or animal and then inserting that gene into a different, non-related plant or animal. It doesn't take much to see the threat that this unnatural process poses on our health and environment. For instance the pollen created by the genetically engineered foods is now carried by bees and wind to neighboring crops, some being organic and not produced through genetic engineering. This foreign, tainted pollen is now spread to unintended varieties of plants or animals, thereby creating new unwanted species, only to spread their pollen, and the cycle will continue.

Scientific studies at Cornell University and the University Arizona show that genetically engineered foods could cause new toxins, resistance to antibiotics, allergic reactions, and other dietary risks. These foods have been deemed "Genetically Recognized as Safe (GRAS). This scares me.

I am asking for mandatory pre-market testing on all genetically engineered foods and that all products containing genetically engineered foods be required by law to say so on the package, so that we as consumers have a choice.

I believe that one of the most powerful votes we have today is with our dollar, or the vote we cast by not spending it. Food is something we need for survival, and most of us have to spend money on it. Without labeling genetically engineered foods we have no idea what we are consuming, therefore the vote goes to whichever product is on sale this week. By labeling foods, the least we do is give the public adequate tools in which to make an educated vote, and that is democracy.

Sincerely,



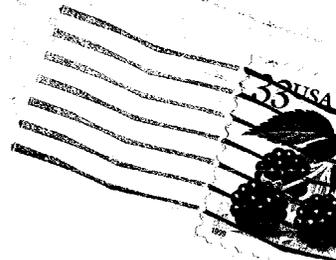
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Commissioner Jane Henney
Docket No. OOP-1211/CP,
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Rockville, MD 20852

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