



## Tallahassee Hearing Aid Center

903 North Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303  
Phone (850) 222-3902  
Since 1972



October 18, 2000

Honorable Donna Shalala  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 615F  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

As a small business owner, a single mother of four and grandmother of eleven and a hearing health provider, I write with respect to proposed rules concerning hearing instrument dispensing that could well put me out of business. I have provided this service to our community for over 28 years and serve thousands of people that could be effected by this.

My concern is with reports that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reportedly sent to you a proposal for revising the current regulations governing the dispensing of hearing aids in this country that would dramatically increase the cost of hearing health care services and restrict access to hearing health care providers. Please stop and carefully consider the impact that this proposed rule will have on the nation's hearing impaired and on the nation's small business hearing aid specialists. In particular, please ensure that any proposed rule meets the obligations of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act.

Hearing impairment is a major health care concern. Please don't let the FDA put forth their proposed rule that would impede access to needed hearing health care services for millions of Americans.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. And, I would appreciate any advice that you might have for me.

Sincerely yours,

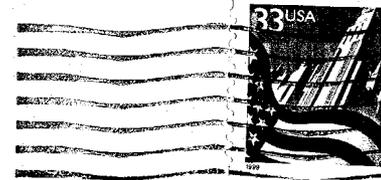
*Barbara R. Stanley*  
Barbara R. Stanley

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