

98P-1194

November 21, 1999

Food and Drug Administration
HFI-40
Rockville, MD
20857

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To Whom It May Concern:

With the approval of the Bovine Somatotropin hormone in 1994, many questions and concerns for the consumer's benefit of the hormone implementation need to be addressed. Recently in a speech class at the College of the Redwoods Junior College, in Eureka, California, it has been brought to our attention that the use of the BST hormone could cause many problems with our nation's dairy industry. First, with the use of the BST hormone, we as consumers only see the over-surplus of the nation's milk supply increasing, adding to the \$200 million dollars we as taxpayers already contribute to in subsidies to the dairy industry. Secondly, we express concern with the increased number of diseases and ailments that can occur in cattle when injected with the hormone. This in essence causes the dairymen to administer more antibiotics treating their cows, therefore; increasing the chances of our consumption of milk with antibiotic residues.

For all of these reasons, we ask that you would further investigate the possible action of banning BST, like our fellow countries Canada and Europe have done already. If abolishing the use of the BST hormone within the United States is not feasible, action needs to be taken to make it a requirement to label dairy products. Labeling would let the consumer know if the product did or did not derived from a BST injected cow. We as consumers have the right to be able to make a decision on the various products we buy in the store daily, and

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your compliance with the labeling of these products would only confirm your belief in our rights.

On the behalf of the concerned students at College of the Redwoods, we thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Debi Batini

Robley Stephens

Randy Mink

~~Allison~~

Holly Kelly

Desiree Perkins

Kalid Mur

Emily Reed

Jeff Munter

Kaow Yosa

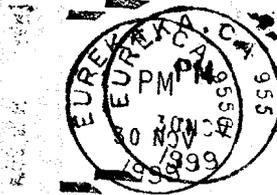
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Food and Drug Administration

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