

Donna Shalala, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala: 4126 '00 JAN 11 AM 58

I am deeply concerned about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food that the Food and Drug Administration is considering. I have the right to know if the food I eat has been exposed to radiation.

Radiation exposure causes chemical changes to food products. The resulting nutritional and cosmetic changes warrant disclosure on a prominent place on the package. In addition, food that is not packaged should be accompanied by a poster in plain view where it is displayed for sale. The law requires labels to be truthful and not misleading to the customer. Offering irradiated foods for sale without clear, honest and permanent labeling is totally unacceptable.

I hope you are defending the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process.

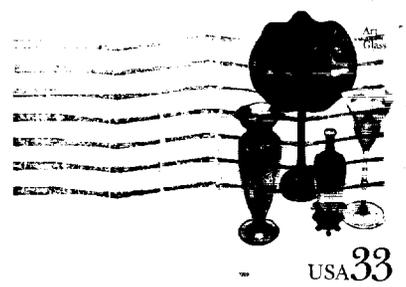
Sincerely,
Henry Schwartzman
Henry Schwartzman

32 East First St.
Corning, NY 14830
December 28, 1999

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