Ms Dolores G Meck
1215 Alamo Creek Ter. Apt. 8
Paso Robles CA 93446

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Jan 6, 2000

Dear Secretary Shalala,

I am very concerned about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food that is being considered by the Food and Drug Administration. It is my right to know if the food I buy has been treated with radiation.

Food products undergo chemical changes after exposure to radioactive isotopes. These cosmetic and nutritional changes in foods warrant that the package should be clearly labeled in a prominent place that the food has been irradiated. Any food not packaged should have a sign in plain view where it is displayed for sale.

Labels are required by law to be truthful and not misleading to the customer. Only clear, honest and permanent labeling is acceptable for irradiated foods.

I urge you to defend the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process.

Sincerely,

Dolores G Meck

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Donna Shalala, Secretary
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