

Robert A. Jenkins, Ph.D.

Soul Work

Redesigning Lives for Peace, Health, Effectiveness, and Love

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January 4, 2000

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

Dear Secretary Donna Shalala:

**Irradiation Labeling**

I am writing to object to any weakening of the labeling requirements for irradiated foods. The FDA is considering weakening or eliminating the labeling requirement.

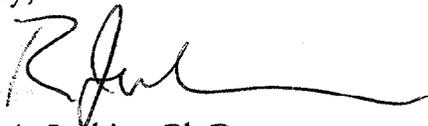
Labels are required by law to be truthful and not misleading. Only clear, honest, and permanent labeling is acceptable for irradiated foods.

There is some controversy about whether irradiation poses any form of threat to the consumer, and in the absence of reasonable certainty, but substantial convenience for the producers, food must be labeled clearly so that we may decide whether to take the risk.

One of the obscure advantages to the producers is the fact that irradiation kills the bacteria which cause food to smell when it is spoiled, so the consumer will have no way to know whether the food has been irradiated then contaminated and spoiled by the producer.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

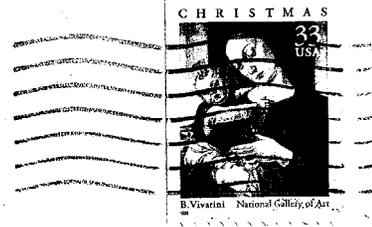


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